

THE NEW BRITISH EMBASSY AT WASHINGTON. Sir Edwin Lutyens' Designs. (Illus.).  
THE CHOIR STALLS AT ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR. By the Dean of Windsor. (Illus.).

# COUNTRY LIFE

OFFICES:  
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# COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE  
AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

VOL. LXII. No. 1614. [REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER.] SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 1927.

Published Weekly, Price ONE SHILLING.  
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HOME COUNTIES.

Entirely surrounded by the Leatherhead Golf Course, with a gate from each site on  
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PERFECT SECLUSION.  
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COUNTRY HOUSE, in very exceptionally beautiful old grounds and park-like  
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ELECTRIC LIGHT. GAS. COMPANY'S WATER. HEATING.  
MODERN DRAINAGE.

Sand and gravel soil.

STABLING. GARAGE. LODGE. THREE COTTAGES.

THE TOTAL AREA OF THE PROPERTY IS

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THE GROUNDS for their size are some of the most beautiful in the district, including  
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Standing high, facing south and west, and commanding  
beautiful views; together with

STABLING, GARAGE, SEVEN FARMHOUSES AND  
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reception rooms; electric light, central heating, Company's  
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rooms, standing in a beautiful old park, thoroughly  
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all nearly

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A REDUCED PRICE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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An early Georgian stone-built MANOR HOUSE,  
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first-class pastureland, orchard, etc.; in all about  
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THE ESTATE SALE ROOMS, LONDON, W. 1

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ADJOINING THE GOLF COURSE.



THE VALUABLE FREEHOLD MARINE PROPERTY,  
WHITE NESS, KINGSGATE.  
THE FINELY APPOINTED MANSION  
is fitted with every modern convenience and comfort and stands in unusually beautiful gardens.  
It contains GALLERIED HALL, GEORGIAN BILLIARD ROOM, OAK MUSIC ROOM and TWO OTHER RECEPTION ROOMS, SIXTEEN BED and DRESSING ROOMS, NURSERIES, SIX BATHROOMS and COMPLETE OFFICES.  
*Company's water. Central heating. Electric light.*  
Excellent garage and stabling accommodation.

OLD-WORLD GROUNDS  
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1,550 FT. FRONTAGE TO GOOD ROADS.  
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Half-a-mile from Bexhill Station, one-and-a-half hours from London: ten minutes' walk from the sea, one mile from Cooden Beach Golf Course.

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THE FINE OLD ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE.



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In a delightfully secluded position on the western outskirts of Bexhill.

THE ANCIENT MANOR HOUSE,  
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Entrance and lounge halls,  
Billiard room,  
Three reception rooms,  
Twelve bed and dressing rooms,  
Four bathrooms and complete offices.



MANY OF THE PRINCIPAL ROOMS ARE TASTEFULLY DECORATED IN THE STYLE OF VARIOUS PERIODS AND THE HOUSE IS EQUIPPED WITH EVERY MODERN CONVENIENCE.



ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.  
MAIN WATER AND GAS. TELEPHONE.  
STABLING AND GARAGE PREMISES.

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In character with and forming an ideal setting to the House. They include

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IN ALL ABOUT  
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THE PROPERTY EXTENDS TO ABOUT EIGHTEEN ACRES

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SECONDARY VILLA with six bedrooms, two bathrooms, h. and c. water in every room.

BUNGALOW COTTAGE, two sitting rooms, three bedrooms.

TWO COTTAGES, four rooms each, h. and c. water.

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(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on pages iii. and xiv.)

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## HAMPTON & SONS

(For continuation of advertisements see page viii.)

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GOLF. YACHTING.  
Glorious sea and land views.

FOR SALE,

A VERY CHOICE FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of about  
500 ACRES.

CHARMING HOUSE OF GEORGIAN TYPE,

FITTED WITH ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES and in first-class order.  
Panelled hall, four fine reception rooms, billiard room, 20 bedrooms, six bathrooms,  
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EXTREMELY BEAUTIFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS,  
tennis and croquet lawns, excellent cricket pitch and pavilion, rock garden, lake,  
etc., etc.

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THE FINEST POSITION IN THE DISTRICT.  
800ft. above sea, with magnificent range of views.

FOR SALE,

AN EXCEEDINGLY CHOICE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE  
of  
94 ACRES  
(Would be divided).

BEAUTIFUL HOUSE OF TUDOR STYLE; fine galleried hall, four  
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etc., etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. GOOD WATER.

BEAUTIFUL TERRACED GARDENS.

Stabling, garage, cottages, home farm.

NEVER BEFORE IN THE MARKET.

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HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.



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IN THE COLNE VALLEY DISTRICT.  
One-and-a-quarter hours from London.

FOR SALE,

A VERY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE  
of  
183 ACRES.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD HOUSE; hall, four reception rooms, billiard  
room, twelve bedrooms, four bathrooms, etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. GOOD WATER

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS.

Stabling, garage, three cottages.

HOME FARM.

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### HERTS—ON HADLEY GREEN

EXTENSIVE VIEWS WHICH CAN NEVER BE INTERRUPTED. ABOUT  
420ft. UP AND CLOSE TO FIRST-CLASS GOLF.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, an old GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE,  
beautifully situated and perfectly appointed, with central heating, electric  
light, and all other modern conveniences. Fine entrance hall, spacious inner lounge  
hall or gallery, billiard or music room, large drawing and dining rooms, old oak  
panelled smoking room, ten principal and five secondary bedrooms, three bathrooms,  
servants' hall, work or play room, and offices.

STABLING, GARAGES, AND THREE EXCELLENT COTTAGES.

FINELY TIMBERED OLD GROUNDS with wide-spreading lawns, woodland  
walks, orchard, kitchen gardens, tennis lawn, fine water garden, roses, rare shrubs,  
and rhododendrons in great variety, also two useful fields; in all

NEARLY FIFTEEN ACRES.

UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE FINEST HOUSES AVAILABLE, WITH  
MANY SPECIAL FEATURES.

Early possession. Strongly recommended for private occupation or any purpose  
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HUNTING with three packs. GOLF.

TO BE SOLD.

AN INTERESTING OLD MANOR HOUSE, containing lounge hall, two reception, ten bed and dressing rooms, two bath, etc.

Central heating. Electric light.  
Walled garden, lawn with stone-flagged paths, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, etc.; stabling and garage, etc.; extending to about

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Additional land (with farmbuildings) up to 290 ACRES could also be purchased.

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A unique small RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING ESTATE OF 800 ACRES with a capital House, recently the subject of a large expenditure; three or four reception rooms, thirteen bedrooms.

TWO FARMS. SEVERAL COTTAGES.

There are over 60 acres of woods and the Estate provides

EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD SHOOTING.

PRICE £13,500.

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About a mile from a station and three miles from a town.

HUNTING. GOLF.

TO BE SOLD.

A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE,

standing 400ft. up with southerly aspect, in finely timbered parklands of about

60 ACRES.

The accommodation comprises lounge hall, four reception, sixteen bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, etc. The grounds are well timbered and include two tennis courts, Dutch garden, large walled kitchen garden, etc. Garage. Extensive stabling. Cottage.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,004.)

### SURREY

Within an easy drive of Haslemere and Godalming. GOLF two miles.

TO BE SOLD.

A CHARMING OLD HOUSE,

about 200ft. up with south aspect.

Lounge hall, three reception, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms. Electric light. Modern sanitation. Garage and three cottages.

NICELY TIMBERED GROUNDS, lawns, kitchen garden, orchard, paddocks.

TEN ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (14,852.)

### BASINGSTOKE

Convenient of access to this favoured town with its excellent train service.

TO BE SOLD.

A SMALL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, with a well-built House standing well away from the road in well-timbered grounds. It is approached by a long carriage drive and contains

Three large reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc. Company's water and gas, electric light and telephone.

GARAGE FOR TWO. STABLING WITH ROOMS OVER. Secluded gardens and a paddock of nearly

SEVEN ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,063.)

### ABOUT AN HOUR'S RAIL

### NORTH OF TOWN

Two miles from a market town and main line station.

HUNTING. SHOOTING. GOLF.

THE RESIDENCE contains lounge hall, five reception, sixteen bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc., and occupies a

FINE POSITION 500FT. UP in a

WELL-TIMBERED PARK

OF GREAT NATURAL BEAUTY. It is approached by two long carriage drives through AVENUES of Cedars and Wellingtonia.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS AND GARDENS.

Ample stabling accommodation, garage, etc.

TWO FARMS. SEVERAL COTTAGES.

TO BE SOLD with practically any area up to

1,200 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (14,891.)

### SURREY HILLS

High up with good views; only 40 minutes of Town.

MODERN LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE,

beautifully fitted and conveniently planned for economic running.

Parquet floors white-tiled offices. Electric light gas and Company's water.

Three good reception rooms, six bedrooms each with lavatory basin (h. and c.), tiled bathroom, etc.

Garage with paved wash, and over an acre of gardens.

PRICE £4,000, FREEHOLD.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M 1363.)

### FRESH ON THE MARKET.

### WEST SUSSEX DOWNS

Delightfully placed in a high but sheltered position COMMANDING EXQUISITE VIEWS. GEORGIAN HOUSE, in perfect order, recently the subject of a large expenditure. Three reception, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone, etc. Company's water.

STABLING. COTTAGE. TWO GARAGES.

OLD SHADY GARDENS,

with many magnificent old trees, tennis and ornamental lawns, kitchen garden and well-timbered parklands of about

TEN ACRES.

An altogether charming little Property, strongly recommended.

SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,057.)

### SOUTH DEVON

About one-and-a-half miles from the coast and three from a favourite seaside resort.

TO BE SOLD.

A DELIGHTFUL OLD-FASHIONED

RESIDENCE.

STANDING 400FT. UP.

Four reception, nine bed and dressing rooms, etc.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

Tastefully disposed grounds and gardens, including tennis and other lawns, walled fruit garden; gardener's cottage, garage, stabling, useful buildings, rich pasture, etc.; in all about

32 ACRES.

hunting, fishing and golf available.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,009.)

### HERTFORDSHIRE

In an excellent social district, easy reach of station. 40 MINUTES FROM TOWN. 400ft. up, in a well-timbered park.

DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE,

dated 1712, but partly of an earlier period.

Lounge hall, three reception, billiard room, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

First-rate stabling and garage accommodation, laundry, etc.

FOUR COTTAGES. CAPITAL FARMHOUSE.

Beautiful old grounds and excellent land of over

200 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (14,995.)

### HEREFORDSHIRE

Near to a station, two miles from a town, and in a favourite part of the county.

TO BE SOLD.

A HANDSOME STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE,

containing four reception, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc.

Electric light. Telephone.

It stands on GRAVEL SOIL and occupies a

BEAUTIFUL SITUATION 400FT. UP.

in OLD-WORLD GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

Stabling, garage, two cottages, paddock, etc.

40 ACRES.

PRICE £4,500.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (14,022.)

### SHROPSHIRE

SPLENDID SPORTING AND RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of nearly

2,000 ACRES.

with a capital small House standing high on gravel soil in a well-timbered park; three reception rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom; central heating and an excellent water supply by gravitation.

SEVEN FARMS. NUMEROUS COTTAGES.

Well-placed woodlands and capital trout stream.

SOLE AGENTS, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above.

(14,217.)

### SUSSEX

Convenient for an important town and station, about AN HOUR'S RAIL FROM TOWN.

Good hunting and social district. Close to golf.

IMPOSING GEORGIAN HOUSE

in excellent structural and decorative repair and having

Electric light. Telephone. Central heating.

Company's water. Constant hot water.

Three large reception rooms, eight principal bedrooms, two

bathrooms, two servants' bedrooms, etc.

Stabling, garage for two cars, two excellent cottages.

CHARMING OLD GARDENS,

with tennis lawn, walled garden, orchard, etc., in all about

FIVE ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,071.)

### SOMERSETSHIRE

Hunting with the Blackmore Vale and Cattistock.

STONE-BUILT HOUSE,

containing lounge hall, three reception, ten bed and dressing

rooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall, etc.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.

TWO COTTAGES. SECONDARY RESIDENCE.

Stabling, garage, farmery; matured well-timbered grounds

and rich pasture of about

20 ACRES.

A charming small Property ready to step into.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,048.)

### HERTS

About an hour's rail from Town and in a good residential district.

TO BE SOLD.

AN INTERESTING OLD

XVIIIth CENTURY HOUSE

containing lounge hall, three reception, thirteen bed and dressing rooms, etc.

It faces SOUTH, stands on LIGHT LOAMY SOIL, and occupies a

Beautiful situation 400FT. UP, in

A MAGNIFICENTLY TIMBERED PARK.

Ample stabling. Garage. Lodge.

The GARDENS and GROUNDS are of a simple character, studded with specimen trees, etc., ancient yews and box hedges, tennis and croquet lawns, walled kitchen garden, woodland walks, etc.

Extensive range of farmbuildings. The land is chiefly pasture, and the whole covers about

275 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (14,813.)

### WORCESTERSHIRE

within a short drive of the County Town.

CHARMING SMALL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY of over

40 ACRES,

with a well-built house recently modernised at great expense. Four reception, ten bedrooms, two bathrooms; wired for electric light and power, radiators; extensive stabling, heated garage, lodge and small farmery; well-timbered grounds, walled kitchen garden, etc.

£6,000.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,066.)

### HALF-AN-HOUR'S RAIL FROM TOWN.

### SURREY

In a favourite residential district.

TO BE SOLD.

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE,

occupying a fine position on high ground with south and west aspects and splendid views. Light subsoil.

It is approached by a carriage drive with lodge, and contains

Four reception, twelve bed and dressing

rooms, three bathrooms, etc.

Company's water, gas and electric light. Central heating.

Telephone.

THE GROUNDS AND GARDENS

include lawns, grass walk, hard tennis court, kitchen garden, etc. In addition there are several acres of pasture. In

all about

FOURTEEN ACRES.

Garage with chauffeur's quarters over.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,050.)

### SOMERSET

In favourite part of Blackmore Vale Country.

STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

in excellent order, standing well up with good views.

Lounge hall, three reception, six bedrooms, bathroom.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. STABLING. GARAGE.

Delightful gardens, with tennis and croquet lawns, rose

garden, kitchen garden and paddock.

£3,750 WITH NINE ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M 1296.)

### SURREY

In beautiful country between Guildford and Horsham.

TO BE SOLD.

AN EXCELLENT SMALL RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY, extending to nearly

250 ACRES,

with a well-built House, replete with modern conveniences.

Electric light. Company's water. Central heating.

Four reception, ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms.

Capital farmbuildings, garages and two cottages.

Small well-timbered park with lake and sound land, including

about 50 acres of woodland.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,072.)

Within easy motoring distance of

### NEWBURY

TO BE SOLD.

A PICTURESQUE HOUSE,

standing 360FT. up on GRAVEL,

and containing lounge hall, three reception, eleven bed and

dressing rooms, etc. Electric light. Telephone.

Long winding carriage drive with lodge. Gardens and

grounds of exceptional character, finely timbered, large

walled kitchen garden, etc.

Garage, chauffeur's rooms, stabling for six, pair of cottages,

set of farmbuildings; in all about

100 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (14,823.)

### KENT

On the outskirts of a LARGE VILLAGE and near to a

GOLF COURSE.

TO BE SOLD.

AN ATTRACTIVE GABLED RESIDENCE,

occupying a beautiful situation about 250ft. up with south

aspect.

Spacious hall, four reception, billiard,

twelve bed and dressing rooms, etc.

Electric light. Central heating. Company's water.

EXCEPTIONALLY CHARMING GROUNDS

which include two tennis courts, walled fruit and kitchen

garden, etc. Stabling, garage, two cottages and bungalow.

Excellent paddocks.

22 ACRES.

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,022.)

OSBORN & MERCER, "ALBEMARLE HOUSE," 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W. 1



Telephone: Regent 7590.  
Telegrams:  
"Selaniet, Piccy, London."

## HAMPTON & SONS

(For continuation of advertisements see page vi.)

Branches: (Wimbledon 'Phone 0080  
Hampstead 'Phone 2727.)



### NORTH SOMERSET

Magnificently placed on the Quantocks, with wonderful views to the coast.  
**VERY CHOICE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE**, in the finest part of the country and the centre of famous hunting district. Contains square hall, four good reception rooms, seven very fine principal bedrooms, two baths, four servants' rooms, and excellent offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE.

Garage. Hunter stabling. Cottage. Farmery.  
Tennis and other lawns, rose garden, kitchen garden, orchard, paddock, pasture and heathland.

OVER 40 ACRES.

PRICE £5,500, FREEHOLD.

Hunting. Polo. Shooting. Fishing and golf available.  
Recommended from personal knowledge.  
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (W 38,307.)



BARGAIN PRICE FOR QUICK SALE. ONLY £3,750 WITH TEN ACRES.  
Glorious position, 500ft. up, in

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Three good rail services within reach.

**HISTORICAL OLD HOUSE** (completely restored) with Jacobean and Georgian characteristics, set 600ft. back from road in park-like grounds. Contains Georgian hall with Adam features, fine drawing room 30ft. by 16ft. and 11ft. 6in. high, two smaller reception rooms, and model offices, five bedrooms (two more easily added), bathroom, boxroom; south aspect, open situation; main water, own lighting, modern drainage; garage, stabling and farmery. Delightful and inexpensive grounds with fine timber, tennis courts, orchards and kitchen garden.

10 TO 30 ACRES AS REQUIRED.

A SMALL CHARACTER HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM.

Strongly recommended.  
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (B 38,659.)



### OXSHOTT, SURREY

SEVEN MINUTES FROM STATION.

**ARTISTIC RESIDENCE**, planned for easy work and equipped with labour-saving devices. Containing four bedrooms (three fitted with lavatory basins), night and day nurseries, dressing room, two bathrooms, hall, two reception rooms, loggia and usual offices.

TWO GARAGES.

Charming gardens of about ONE-AND-THREE-QUARTER ACRES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE. GOOD REPAIR.

PRICE £3,400.

Full particulars apply

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (S 41,609.)



PRICE £2,500, FREEHOLD

### SURREY HILLS

FINE HEALTHY POSITION, 500FT. UP.

**ATTRACTIVE FAMILY RESIDENCE**, containing eight bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, entrance hall, three reception rooms, offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. GOOD REPAIR.

TASTEFULLY ARRANGED GARDENS OF

HALF-AN-ACRE.

Full particulars apply

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (S 34,909.)



### OXTED, SURREY

ONE MILE FROM STATION; OPEN POSITION.

**ARTISTIC BIJOU RESIDENCE**, containing four bedrooms, dressing and bathrooms, entrance hall, two reception rooms, loggia.

COMPANY'S ELECTRIC LIGHT.

MAIN DRAINAGE.

DOUBLE GARAGE. WORKSHOP.

Delightful grounds of over

ONE-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.

PRICE £2,750, FREEHOLD.

Full particulars apply

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (S 34,772.)



### SUSSEX

On the outskirts of a good old market town, served by fast trains within the hour.

**FOR SALE**, an EXCELLENT HOUSE, with every convenience; drawing room 21ft. by 17ft., dining room 19ft. by 18ft. 6in., library, eight bedrooms, three bathrooms; Company's water, gas, electric light and power, centrally heated, main drainage; stabling and garage.

PARTLY WALLED GARDEN with tennis and other lawns, flower and kitchen garden, orchard and meadowland; in all about

FOUR ACRES.

The House is in beautiful order and ready for immediate occupation.

PRICE BEYOND CRITICISM.

Apply to the Agents,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (C 41,362.)



AT THE LOW UPSET PRICE OF £1,600, TO ENSURE A SALE.  
Owner going abroad.

In the favourite and delightful riverside resort of

### MAIDENHEAD, BERKS

About a mile from two stations, good main line service to Town.  
PICTURESQUE AND MEDIUM-SIZED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.

"ELBURY," RAY PARK AVENUE.

Convenient position, close to Boulter's Lock and some of the most charming reaches of the River Thames. The accommodation comprises nice hall, three reception rooms, garden room and conservatory, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms and offices; central heating, Co.'s gas and water, main drainage, telephone; garage, stabling, workshop; attractive and inexpensive garden.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

To be SOLD by AUCTION at the St. James' Estate Rooms, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1, on Tuesday, March 13th, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors, Messrs. BURTON, YEATES & HART, 23, Surrey Street, W.C. 2.  
Particulars of the Auctioneers,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.

Offices: 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE, S.W. 1



Telephone:  
Grosvenor 1400 (2 lines).

## CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON.

Telegrams:  
"Submit, London."

TRUSTEES' SALE.

WEST SUSSEX

AT A SACRIFICE TO CLOSE ESTATE.



ONE HOUR'S RAIL FROM TOWN. THREE-AND-A-HALF MILES FROM HORSHAM WITH ITS EXCELLENT SERVICE OF EXPRESS TRAINS.  
**A VERY FINE TUDOR STYLE RESIDENCE**, surrounded by a GRANDLY TIMBERED PARK, through which it is approached by two carriage drives. The Residence enjoys beautiful views extending to the South Downs, and the accommodation includes oak-panelled hall, four reception, billiard, 20 bed, three bathrooms, etc.  
ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. AMPLE WATER SUPPLY. MODERN DRAINAGE.  
Excellent block of stabling and garage, laundry. BEAUTIFULLY WOODED GROUNDS, old wide-spreading lawns, two walled gardens, orchards, etc.  
TWO OTHER FARMS AVAILABLE, with picturesque black-and-white farmhouse and a number of cottages; in all 195 OR 500 ACRES.  
Sole Agents, Messrs. MESSENGER & MORGAN, Lloyds Bank Chambers, Guildford; and Messrs. CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

### TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND RYE

**PICTURESQUE OLD ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE**, of most pleasing appearance, carefully restored, containing many quaint characteristics—original oak beams, panelling, etc. It occupies a fine healthy position near delightful old village, famous for its old houses and church. LOUNGE HALL, FOUR RECEPTION, EIGHT BEDROOMS, TWO BATHROOMS; ELECTRIC LIGHT, COMPANY'S WATER, MAIN DRAINAGE, hot water service, telephone; two cottages converted from Oast House, large garage, capital farmery with fine old oak-timbered barns; attractive gardens, herbaceous borders, ornamental pond, old trees, tennis court, kitchen garden, HARD COURT, extensive orchards, meadowland; about

28 ACRES.

LOW PRICE.

CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### BUCKS AND OXON

CLOSE TO ALL PRINCIPAL MEETS OF THE BICESTER.

**DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE** (old black-and-white half timbered style), occupying fine position with extensive views; FOUR RECEPTION, TWELVE BEDROOMS, THREE BATHROOMS.  
ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE.  
Ample water supply. Modern drainage.  
HUNTING STABLING FOR FIFTEEN HORSES, men's rooms, garages, three cottages; home farmery; tennis courts, squash racquet court.

WELL-TIMBERED PARK. OVER 100 ACRES.

SACRIFICIAL PRICE.—Owner's Agents, CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount St., W.1



### PENSHURST

30 MILES OUT.

WITHIN ONE HOUR'S RAIL.

Close to one of the most delightful old-world villages in the Home Counties and overlooking

A GRAND OLD PARK.

The approach is by a drive with lodge, and the accommodation includes lounge hall, four large reception, fourteen bedrooms, two bathrooms.

GAS. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. GOOD WATER SUPPLY.  
Garage, stabling, etc.

VERY BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS FINELY TIMBERED AND FORMING A MOST DELIGHTFUL FEATURE OF THE PROPERTY, tennis and croquet lawns, extensive brick paved walks, kitchen garden, etc.; the whole extending to

TWELVE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

FARM ADJOINING OF 134 ACRES AVAILABLE.

FOR SALE.—Sole Agents, CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### NEAR THE SOUTH DOWNS

**DELIGHTFUL OLD HALF-TIMBERED RESIDENCE**, dating from 1600, containing many old-world characteristics. Old Horsham slab stone roof. Has been carefully modernised. Excellent position on sandsoil with fine views of the Downs.

THREE RECEPTION. SEVEN BEDROOMS. TWO BATHROOMS.

Gas, water, telephone; new drainage; garage, laundry, bungalow.

MATURED GARDENS, with stone-flagged paths, clipped hedges, kitchen garden, sound pasture and thriving orcharding; in all about

50 ACRES (OR DIVIDED).

CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

### SURREY. IDEAL HOME FOR CITY MAN

20 MILES FROM LONDON. 30 MINUTES RAIL.

**EXCEPTIONALLY FINE MODERN RESIDENCE**, on high ground and LIGHT SOIL, perfectly secluded, facing south, and approached by drive. The accommodation includes hall, four beautiful reception rooms, billiard room, winter garden, fifteen bed, FIVE BATHROOMS, complete offices.  
CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT AND GAS. MAIN DRAINAGE.  
CO.'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.

WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS; lawns, walled kitchen garden, orchard; stabling, garage, three cottages, miniature MODEL FARM, small PARK.

27 ACRES.

FOR SALE AT A GREAT SACRIFICE TO CLOSE ESTATE.—Executors' Sale.—Sole Agents, CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.



### TUNBRIDGE WELLS

ONE MILE FROM STATION, 45 minutes from City and West End.

In one of the highest and best residential parts of this popular inland health resort. 450ft. above sea level.

Sandy soil.

ADJACENT TO LARGE AREAS OF COMMONLANDS.

**DELIGHTFUL OLD - WORLD PERIOD HOUSE**, dating from the XVIIIth century and rich in historical associations, approached by a carriage drive and containing

FOUR RECEPTION. TWELVE BEDROOMS.  
TWO BATHROOMS.CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER.  
MAIN DRAINAGE. TELEPHONE.

Stabling and garages, cottage. UNUSUALLY BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS, old turf lawns for croquet and tennis, magnificent trees and shrubs, cedar of Lebanon 700 years old, productive kitchen garden, glasshouses and paddock; in all

ABOUT FIVE ACRES.

PRICE MODERATE.

Inspected and strongly recommended by the SOLE AGENTS, CURTIS &amp; HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

LAND AND  
ESTATE AGENTS.

Telephone 21.

ESTABLISHED 1812.

## GUDGEON & SONS

WINCHESTER

AUCTIONEERS  
AND VALUERS.

Telegrams: "Gudgeons."



### NEAR WINCHESTER

HIGH POSITION 293FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL, WITH DISTANT VIEWS.  
FOR SALE, a GENTLEMAN'S FAMILY RESIDENCE, facing due south, approached by carriage drive with lodge entrance. Lounge hall, three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, complete domestic offices, servants' hall; electric light. Company's water, telephone; stabling and garage; well-timbered grounds with lawn and kitchen garden; total area ONE-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.  
Apply GUDGEON & SONS, Estate Agents, Winchester. (Folio 209.)

### OUTSKIRTS OF WINCHESTER

ONE-AND-A-QUARTER MILES MAIN LINE STATION. GOLF LINKS HALF-A-MILE.



**FREEHOLD**  
RESIDENTIAL  
PROPERTY in most excellent order throughout. Carriage drive. Good views. Three reception rooms, eight bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, complete domestic offices. Company's water and gas. Central heating. Telephone. MOST PICTURESQUE GROUNDS, with tennis court, yew hedges, rose garden, kitchen garden.

Total area,  
ONE ACRE.  
PRICE £2,500.

Apply GUDGEON & SONS, The Auction Mart, Winchester. (Folio 1465.)

ESTATE  
AGENTS AND  
AUCTIONEERS.

## GIFFARD, ROBERTSON & LUCEY

(SUCCESSORS TO DIBBLIN & SMITH).

106, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1.

Tel.: Grosvenor 1671  
(2 lines).

### CLOSE TO SEVENOAKS

400ft. up with beautiful views.

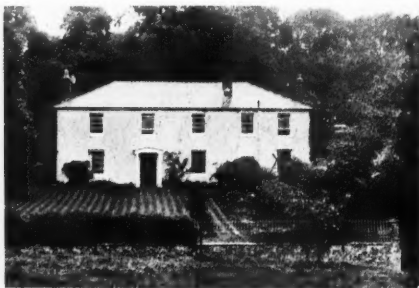


A BEAUTIFUL JACOBEOAN HOUSE, having been entirely redecorated and is in excellent order; eleven bed and dressing rooms, three reception rooms, three bathrooms.

ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES.  
STABLING. GARAGE. LODGE.  
NEARLY TWELVE ACRES.  
FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

Inspected and recommended by the Owner's Agents, Messrs. GIFFARD, ROBERTSON & LUCEY, 106, Mount Street, W. 1.

### BERKS AND WILTS BORDERS



A CAPITAL OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE, occupying a beautiful position, about 600ft. up; six bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms.

SIX COTTAGES. FARMBUILDINGS.  
EXCELLENT SHOOTING AND HUNTING.

ABOUT 387 ACRES.

PRICE £1,500, FREEHOLD; would be sold with less land.

Full particulars from the Owner's Agents, Messrs. GIFFARD, ROBERTSON & LUCEY, 106, Mount Street, W. 1.

### HERTS

40 minutes from London.



A VERY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, about 500ft. up, enjoying complete privacy and commanding uninterrupted views for many miles; ten bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms.

MODERN CONVENIENCES.  
STABLING. GARAGE. COTTAGE.  
Delightful old-world gardens.

ABOUT ELEVEN ACRES.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

Inspected and recommended by the Owner's Agents, Messrs. GIFFARD, ROBERTSON & LUCEY, 106, Mount Street, W. 1.

Telegrams: "Teamwork, Piccy, London."  
Telephone: Mayfair 2300  
" 2301  
" 4424

## NORFOLK & PRIOR

20, BERKELEY STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.

Auctioneers and Surveyors,  
Valuers,  
Land and Estate Agents.



### ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE OLD-WORLD VILLAGE OF BANSTEAD, SURREY

Standing high, but sheltered, commanding delightful views over and immediately adjoining absolutely rural and unspoilt country: ten minutes' walk from Epsom Downs Station, two-and-a-half miles from Sutton, with splendid main line service to Town.

THIS CHARMING RED BRICK GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, with later additions, standing well back from the road and approached by long drive, with lodge entrance, contains lounge hall, four reception rooms, servants' hall, ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms.

Main water and gas, modern drainage, 'phone (main electric light available). Garage, four cottages, groom's rooms, splendid stabling, garages, farmery.

Beautifully timbered old-world grounds, in perfect order, hard tennis court, flagged walks, productive kitchen garden, and some TEN ACRES of rich park-like pasture; in all

FOURTEEN ACRES. TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED.

Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W. 1.

RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.  
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,  
8, QUEEN STREET, EXETER. Est. 1884.  
Telephone 3244.

ILLUSTRATED REGISTER OF PROPERTIES in the South and South-Western Counties. Price 2/-; by post 2/6. Selected Lists free upon receipt of applicants' requirements.

**DEVON, NORTH** (on the Borders of Exmoor).—To be LET FURNISHED, DELIGHTFUL OLD-FASHIONED MANOR RESIDENCE, in the heart of fine sporting district, near village and station. Two reception, billiard room, gun room, office, nine bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.); electric light throughout. BEAUTIFUL OLD-WORLD GROUNDS, lawn, kitchen garden, paddock of two acres; in all about THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES. Stabling for four, garage, kennels and outbuildings. ABOUT 1,000 ACRES ROUGH SHOOTING, including pheasant, partridge, woodcock and snipe. HUNTING with four packs. —Full particulars of RIPPON, BOSWELL & Co., Exeter. (3398.)



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ADMIRABLY SUITABLE FOR BUSINESS MEN IN MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, OR YORKSHIRE INDUSTRIAL TOWNS.

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GOOD SERVICE OF TRAINS TO LONDON.

**THE EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE** of about 1,500 ACRES, including a fine modern Georgian Residence, exceedingly well fitted throughout, with panelled rooms in keeping. Accommodation: Lounge hall, fine drawing and dining rooms, breakfast, billiard and smoking rooms, and upwards of 20 bedrooms, all of good size, eight bathrooms with exceptionally good lavatory accommodation, adequate domestic offices.

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First-rate stabling and garage accommodation with chauffeur's and gardener's cottages and lodge. **THE SHOOTING IS EXCEPTIONAL** over the whole Estate, 2,000 pheasants could easily be reared, and, in addition, there is a grouse moor and rough shooting, with the possibility of hiring an additional area, to afford ONE OF THE FINEST SPORTING ESTATES IN THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY. *Splendid fishing obtainable in the Ribble and the Hodder.* The Estate is divided into a number of convenient holdings, with excellent farmbuildings, and produces

#### A SUBSTANTIAL RENT ROLL.

To be SOLD, Freehold, either as a whole, or the Mansion with a suitable boundary could be arranged, and including the grouse moor, etc.

Particulars in preparation for SALE by Private Treaty or by AUCTION in the Spring. — Personally inspected and strongly recommended by the Agents, JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, London, W. 1. (81,591.)



FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY NOW, OR AUCTION LATER.

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WITHIN TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS OF LONDON.

#### STONE-BUILT HOUSE.

STANDING HIGH.  
LOVELY VIEWS.

Eight or nine bed, two bath, four reception rooms, excellent offices.

STABLING.

GARAGE. FARMERY.

TWO GOOD COTTAGES.



VIEW FROM HOUSE.

ABOUT 24 ACRES INCLUDING 20 ACRES VALUABLE GRAZING LETTING OFF IF DESIRED AT A HIGH FIGURE.

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#### CHARMING BUT INEXPENSIVE

GARDEN.

tennis court, kitchen garden, walled orchard.

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MAIN WATER SUPPLY.

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THE MANOR HOUSE.

### GREAT SOMERFORD, WILTS

HUNTING SIX DAYS A WEEK WITH THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT'S AND V.W.H.

**A BEAUTIFUL OLD MANOR HOUSE**, in excellent structural and decorative repair, approached by long carriage drive with lodge entrance. Sixteen bed and dressing, four bath, billiard and three reception rooms, good offices; capital hunter stabling for 20 horses, bailiff's or farmhouse, lodge and five good cottages.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE.

MODERN CESSPOOL DRAINAGE.

SQUASH RACQUET COURT.

The Property extends to about 190 ACRES, of which about 53½ acres are arable. If desired, the House, stabling, lodge and two cottages, with about 28½ acres, would be sold separately.

FOR SALE AT A TEMPTING PRICE.

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#### THIS FINE OLD RESIDENCE (OF GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST)

partly built in the XVth century, with principal additions in the reign of Queen Anne and the Georgian period, possesses the atmosphere and charm of an old-world home, and contains

VESTIBULE, GREAT HALL,  
PRIEST'S ROOM,  
OLD BANQUETING HALL,  
MINSTRELS' GALLERY,  
TWO OTHER RECEPTION ROOMS,  
BILLIARD ROOM,  
ELEVEN BEDROOMS,  
THREE BATHROOMS.

Electric light.  
Company's water, also own supply.  
Central heating.  
Water softening plant.



#### EXCELLENT GARAGE ACCOMMODATION

FINE OLD TITHE BARN.

and interesting thatched cottage and another.

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GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

well disposed and inexpensive to maintain, with a

MINIATURE GOLF COURSE

and delightful shrubbery walks, rock garden, from which

WONDERFUL PANORAMIC VIEWS OVER THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY ARE OBTAINED. 1.3

N.B.—The Vendor has spent wisely a considerable sum of money upon the interior of this beautiful house and its immediate surroundings. The gardens have been made most attractive, and although one has the facility of living within the town with all its historical associations, there is a sense of privacy which combines in making it a most attractive home.

TO BE SOLD WITH ABOUT FOURTEEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

Or the House, tithe barn, garages, with chauffeur's quarters, together with two acres of ornamental, secluded pleasure grounds would be sold apart from parkland. Full particulars on application to the Agents, JOLLY & SON, 10, Milson Street, Bath; or JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6, Mount Street, London, W. 1. (60,864.)

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(ESTABLISHED 1778).

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And at  
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### 450FT. UP ON THE SURREY HILLS SOUTH OF GUILDFORD

GLORIOUS VIEWS OVER WOODED COUNTRY TO THE HINDHEAD RIDGE.

PERFECTLY RURAL SURROUNDINGS, BRACING AIR, ADJOINING LOVELY BRACKEN AND GORSE-CLAD COMMONS. STATION TWO MILES.



**FINE MODERN STONE BUILT RESIDENCE**, erected 20 years ago without regard to cost. Lounge hall with oak staircase and gallery, three handsome reception rooms, conservatory, billiard room, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, two baths, loggia, complete domestic offices.

TWO LODGES. LONG DRIVE. COTTAGE.

Stabling, garage, laundry.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.  
EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE

Perfect order and repair throughout.

CHOICE PLEASURE GARDENS

OF GREAT NATURAL BEAUTY. Hard and grass tennis courts, yew walk, kitchen and fruit garden, woodland walks and meadows; in all

28 ACRES.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT MODERATE PRICE.

Inspected and highly recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1 (c 1010.)



TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED.

RENT £300 PER ANNUM (NO PREMIUM).

HIGH UP ON THE BOXMOOR HILLS.

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**A PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE**, in park-like grounds. Hall, four reception, ten bed and dressing, bath, and usual offices.

CENTRAL HEATING, MAIN WATER AND GAS, MODERN DRAINAGE.

Stabling, garages, excellent cottage; small pleasure grounds, kitchen garden, etc.; in all

ABOUT 25 ACRES.

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BORDERS.

In a remarkably choice position. Station a mile.

**DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**,

added to, and the subject of a large expenditure. Lounge hall, four excellent reception rooms, fine picture gallery, complete offices with tiled floors and walls, massive oak staircase, sixteen bed and dressing rooms, four beautiful bathrooms with marble tiled walls.

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EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY

Beautiful timbered grounds, stone-flagged paths, extensive rocky and wild gardens, double tennis lawn, rose garden, avenue walk, ornamental water stocked with trout; garage, stabling, and park-like meadows; in all

NEARLY 100 ACRES,

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GEORGIAN HOUSE.

TROUT FISHING IN GROUNDS.

250FT. ABOVE SEA, IN SHELTERED POSITION.

Twelve bed and dressing, two baths, four reception rooms.

GARAGE. STABLING. COTTAGE.

CENTRAL HEATING. LIGHTING.

92 ACRES.

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IN THE EXCELLENT SOCIAL AND SPORTING DISTRICT OF NEWBURY.

**DELIGHTFUL OLD RESIDENCE**, with stone mullioned windows, very picturesque, standing 450ft. up, south and west aspect, long drive; five reception rooms, complete offices, fifteen bedrooms, and bath.

Garage, stabling, four cottages, farmery.

OLD-WORLD GARDEN AND WELL-TIMBERED PARK, running stream with cascade and lake, fruit garden, glass, orchard, woods and fertile pasture and arable; in all

ABOUT 127 ACRES.

TO BE SOLD.

A BARGAIN.

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ESTATE OFFICES,  
RUGBY.  
18, BENNETT'S HILL,  
BIRMINGHAM.

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LONDON, RUGBY, OXFORD AND BIRMINGHAM.

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Main line junction station one-and-a-half miles, whence London is reached in under two hours.

**EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR A PEDI-GREE HERD**.—TO BE SOLD, FREEHOLD, with possession, attractive RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, extending to an area of 450 ACRES (two-thirds well watered pasture, remainder two-horse arable). Gentleman's stone-built Residence, containing three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom (h. and c.); independent hot water supply; indoor sanitation; excellent stone-built farmbuildings, tyings for 40 cows, six cottages. Hunting with the Heythrop. ABOUT ONE MILE OF TROUT FISHING IN THE RIVER EVENLODE. No tithe or land tax. MODERATE PRICE.—Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 140, High Street, Oxford. (2164 F.)

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Under one hour by fast train to London; 200ft. above sea level, south aspect, sandy soil, one mile station. HUNTING AND GOLF IN DISTRICT.

**FOR SALE**, an old-fashioned (but modernised) COUNTRY RESIDENCE, away from main roads, in a secluded position, and surrounded by its own parklands. Hall and three large sitting rooms, ten bedrooms (one floor only), and two bathrooms, servants' hall; electric light, central heating, main water; stabling and garage; lovely grounds, with tennis and croquet lawns; everything in splendid order.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £5,200.

NINETEEN ACRES THREE COTTAGES.  
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CLOSE TO THE COAST.



**IMPORTANT RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE**.—The handsome Residence, in perfect order, occupies an exceptionally healthy position with delightful views over the magnificently timbered park; is approached by two carriage drives guarded by entrance lodges, and contains lounge hall, three reception rooms, library, boudoir, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms. ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN SANITATION, TELEPHONE. Garage, chauffeurs' flats, farmery. Beautiful pleasure grounds including tennis lawns and conservatory, together with valuable farmlands; extending in all to about

350 ACRES. PRICE £11,000.

Or would be sold with a smaller area of land if desired.—Strongly recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Rugby. (R 6353.)

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A few miles from the coast, and within easy reach by road and rail of several important centres. Hunting and golf; also splendid riding facilities.

**THE RESIDENCE** is compact, and contains three sitting rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms; electric light, main water, telephone; plenty of first-rate stabling, with flats over (each flat has a bathroom), and other out-buildings. The land, which extends to about

30 ACRES,

is some of the best in the county.

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In the Portman Hunt, near the Cranbourne Chase, and within easy reach of a first-class 18-hole golf course; adjacent to pretty village; excellent social district.

**FOR SALE**, a delightful small COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in beautiful order, and containing three sitting rooms, seven bedrooms, bathroom; cottage, stabling and garage; nice gardens and grounds, paddock, etc., of

TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES

LOWEST PRICE, FREEHOLD, £2,100.

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HIGH GROUND. AMIDST THE MOST BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY IN SURREY; EASY REACH OF LEITH HILL; ONE-AND-A-HALF MILES DORKING. SPLENDID VIEWS.

CHARMING COUNTRY PROPERTY,  
lavishly fitted and in splendid order.

Lounge hall, three reception rooms, billiard room,  
fourteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms.



MAIN DRAINAGE. CENTRAL HEATING.  
ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
CO.'S GAS AND WATER. TELEPHONE.  
GARAGE (FOUR CARS).  
CHAUFFEUR'S FLAT. LODGE.  
SMALL FARMERY.



#### PLEASURE GROUNDS

adorned with many fine specimen trees.

TENNIS COURTS (hard and grass).

HERBACEOUS BORDERS. ROSE GARDEN.  
KITCHEN GARDEN. MEADOWLAND; in all about  
ELEVEN ACRES.

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CHARMING RURAL POSITION OVERLOOKING CHALFONT PARK GOLF COURSE.

SPLENDID MODERN HOUSE,  
easily run, all on two floors.

LOUNGE HALL,  
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,  
LOGGIA,  
SEVEN BEDROOMS, BATHROOM and  
OFFICES.

COMPANY'S WATER.  
ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE.

Central heating. Gas. Main drainage.

GRAVEL SOIL. GARAGE.



Exceptionally  
WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS,  
in splendid order.

TENNIS LAWN.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS.  
KITCHEN GARDEN. ROCK GARDEN.  
SHRUBBERIES.

And about four acres of WOODLAND; in  
all about

FIVE ACRES.

FREEHOLD £5,500.

Would be sold with less land.

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"ST. MARTINS,"

HAYWARDS HEATH

50 MINUTES TOWN.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, occupying a choice  
position, convenient for station, etc. Contains  
hall, three reception, seven bed and dressing rooms, two  
bathrooms, and offices

COMPANY'S GAS. WATER AND ELECTRIC  
LIGHT. MAIN DRAINAGE.  
GARAGE. OUTBUILDINGS.  
DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GARDENS; in all about  
ONE ACRE.

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£130 PER ANNUM, UNFURNISHED, ON LEASE.

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In a good social and sporting district, near Bury St.  
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CAPITAL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE,  
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EIGHT BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, THREE RECEPTION,  
COMPLETE OFFICES WITH SERVANTS'  
HALL, ETC.

STABLING. GARAGE.

MATURED GROUNDS.

tennis lawn, walled kitchen garden and meadowland;  
in all

NEARLY FIVE ACRES.

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### WOODBIDGE GOLF COURSE

Beautiful situation, wonderful country; Woodbridge  
Station one mile; overlooking the River Deben. Fishing,  
Boating.

CHARMING RESIDENCE; hall, four reception  
rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and  
usual offices; electric light and gas, central heating,  
telephone, Company's water, modern drainage, sandy soil;  
cottage, garage, coach-house, stabling, outbuildings;  
delightful gardens and grounds extending to nearly  
FOUR ACRES.

£5,600. FREEHOLD.

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS LTD.,  
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### FAVOURITE AYLESBURY DISTRICT

300FT. UP.

ONE MILE FROM STATION.

FIRST-CLASS HUNTING BOX  
AND COUNTRY HOME.

THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,  
EIGHT BEDROOMS, BATHROOM,  
KITCHEN, AND OFFICES.

COMPANY'S WATER AND GAS.

MODERN DRAINAGE. RADIATORS.



WALLED GARDENS AND GROUNDS,  
TENNIS LAWN,  
and an

AREA OF RICH PASTURELAND  
in all about

58 ACRES.

STABLING. FARMERY.

HUNTING WITH WHADDON CHASE  
AND BICESTER.

LOW PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.

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THE ESTATE SALE ROOMS, LONDON, W. 1

## AT A REDUCED PRICE. SOMERSET

AN UNUSUALLY FINE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.



with Jacobean-style RESIDENCE, built in 1887, from designs of an eminent architect, and containing hall, four reception rooms, billiard room, eight principal bedrooms, six dressing and servants' rooms, two bathrooms, and offices.

Garage and hunting stables.

GARDENS containing many magnificent specimen trees, and intersected by a trout stream, hard and grass tennis courts, walled garden and paddocks; in all about

SIXTEEN-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.  
MORE LAND MAY BE ACQUIRED.

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## WITHIN A FEW MILES OF NORWICH

COMFORTABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE,  
facing south, standing in timbered grounds and away from traffic.



Four reception rooms, ten bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices.

Excellent water supply. Garages. Stabling.

Poultry houses and farmbuildings.

The grounds contain some fine old coniferous trees, lawns, forecourt with sundial, old flower garden, greenhouses and meadowland; in all about 20 acres.

Fishing, yachting, golfing and shooting in district.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £3,500.

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Fifteen minutes by car from main line station whence London is reached in 45 minutes.



FOR SALE WITH 8 OR 126 ACRES.

Old-fashioned red-brick and tiled RESIDENCE, standing in parklands, 300ft. above sea level. Drive of a quarter of a mile.

Lounge, four reception rooms, eight bed and dressing rooms, two attics, two bathrooms and offices.

Electric light and central heating throughout.

Telephone. Company's water.

Stabling. Garage. Home farm. Two cottages.

PRICE £6,250, or £3,750 with eight acres.

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## THE BEST LAID OUT TOWN IN ENGLAND. WELWYN CITY, HERTFORDSHIRE

London 35 minutes by rail, 21 miles via Great North Road.

COUNTRY AMENITIES COMBINED WITH TOWN FACILITIES.



### AN ATTRACTIVE FAMILY RESIDENCE.

situate on gravel soil over 330ft. above sea level and facing south, with delightful views over the Lea valley and rural Hertfordshire. Large entrance hall, three reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms, and commodious offices. Every modern labour-saving device.

Electric light. Central heating. Company's water and gas. Main drainage.

GARAGE.

LARGE GARDEN.

GOLF, TENNIS, SPORTS, THEATRE, CINEMA, SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

For SALE by Private Treaty. With vacant possession. A mortgage or easy terms of payment can be arranged.

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Seven miles from Chichester, Littlehampton, Goodwood, and Arundel, two hours of London by road or rail.

TO BE LET.

A CHARMING OLD MANOR HOUSE, situated about a quarter of a mile from the sea.



Three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Company's gas and water, telephone. Four-roomed bungalow. Garage.

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PRIVATE BEACH WITH TWO BATHING HUTS.

A large sum of money has recently been expended on the Property, which is now in very good order indeed. Lavatory basins in each bedroom.

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AMIDST LOVELY COUNTRY.

GENUINE 400-YEARS-OLD FARMHOUSE,



BRICK BUILT AND TILED,  
SITUATE IN A SMALL VILLAGE.

Three reception rooms, large kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom, etc.;

Company's water, electric light available shortly.

Garage, useful buildings and poultry houses.

PRETTY GARDEN with flower beds, lawn, kitchen garden, tennis lawn, and about THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES of valuable orchard, producing £50 to £60 a year for fruit.

Hunting with the Whaddon Chase, Old Berkeley and other packs.

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THIRTY MINUTES FROM TOWN.



A WELL-BUILT FREEHOLD RESIDENCE  
standing 600ft. above sea level and commanding beautiful views.

Three reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms

Electric light.

Central heating.

Company's water.

Modern drainage.

GARAGE.

Pleasure gardens of two-and-a-half acres with tennis lawn, rose gardens, kitchen garden, orchard, etc.

PRICE £4,500.

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## TUNBRIDGE WELLS

ABOUT ONE MILE FROM MAIN LINE STATION.



A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY.

on a private estate, approached by a carriage drive, and containing FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS, ELEVEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, etc.

Stabling. Garage. Cottage.

THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS include tennis lawn, summerhouse, flower beds, rose pergolas; about THREE-QUARTERS OF AN ACRE.

PRICE, LEASEHOLD, £4,000.

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Furnished.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

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(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on pages iii. and v.)

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### TUNBRIDGE WELLS (NEAR)

Situated on high ground within easy reach of the town and yet amidst glorious country.



TO BE LET OR SOLD.

Genuinely 600 years old. Delightful old thatched House: two or three reception rooms, four or five bedrooms, bathroom with geyser, and up-to-date domestic offices, fitted with electric cooker, etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
MAIN WATER. RADIATORS.  
CONSTANT HOT WATER.

Pretty garden well laid out with lawns, flower borders, fruit trees, rose garden, flagged paths, etc., and kitchen garden; in all about

ONE ACRE.  
Garage.

RENT for a term of three years, £100 PER ANNUM.

PRICE for the Freehold, £2,000.

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FOUR MILES FROM THE COAST; 300 FT. UP; GRAVEL SOIL.

WITHIN EASY REACH OF  
BOURNEMOUTH

AN EXCEEDINGLY BRIGHT  
AND CHEERFUL HOUSE on two  
floors only, and in first-rate order; approached  
by winding drive through pretty avenue of  
firs. Four reception rooms, six bed and  
dressing rooms, two bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
TELEPHONE.

Stabling, garage, picturesque cottage.

CHARMING INEXPENSIVE GARDENS,  
tennis lawn, two orchards, paddock and  
woodland.



FIVE ACRES. FREEHOLD £4,500.

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MOST ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE  
IN SPLENDID CONDITION.

Four reception rooms and offices, including servants' hall, eight bedrooms, sumptuous bathroom.

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Rooms and accommodation suitable for cottage.

Tennis lawn, croquet lawn, fish pond and ornamental grounds.

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THE ABOVE CHARMING RESIDENCE, situated on a slope of the Cotswolds, amid rural surroundings, with S.W. aspect and commanding splendid views. Three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, bathroom, hall floor kitchen and offices; electric light, good water supply, main drainage; ample outbuildings, garage; greenhouse, gardens with tennis lawn about one-and-a-half acres. Also seven-and-a-half acres of pasture orcharding. Price £4,000 Freehold. Vacant possession.

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On the Wilts and Somerset Borders, in a high position, facing S. and W.

THIS CHARMING OLD GEORGIAN COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in PERFECT ORDER THROUGHOUT, and with Co.'s water, gas and electric light; approached by winding drive and standing in grounds of exceptional beauty, with pasture orcharding; in all about FOUR-AND-A-HALF ACRES; lounge hall, four reception, nine beds, two baths (h. and c.), and most convenient offices, including servants' sitting room. Splendid stabling and garage, also gardener's cottage. Hunting, golf, fishing, shooting, all to be had.—Price and full particulars from W. HUGHES & SON, LTD., who have inspected and can strongly recommend the Property. (16,726.)



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SOMERSET (in a high and most charming position, facing S.W., in most picturesque and rural surroundings).—This very attractive and comfortable COUNTRY RESIDENCE of three reception, very fine billiard room, six beds, bath (h. and c.) and convenient offices; approached by long winding drive and placed in inexpensive grounds of great charm and beauty, magnificently timbered and with profusion of flowering shrubs, also orcharding and paddock; in all about THIRTEEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES. Stable, garage, and useful outbuildings. Co.'s electric light. PRICE ONLY £3,600.

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In a lovely rural situation, two miles from Twyford and Wargrave Stations, and six miles from Reading and Maidenhead.

FOR SALE,

DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE of picturesque elevation, surrounded by choice grounds.

Ten bedrooms,  
Bathroom (h. and c.),  
Four reception,  
Complete offices.

THREE GARAGES. STABLING.  
CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
MAIN WATER.

Two tennis courts, well stocked garden and orchard, extending in all to

FIVE ACRES.

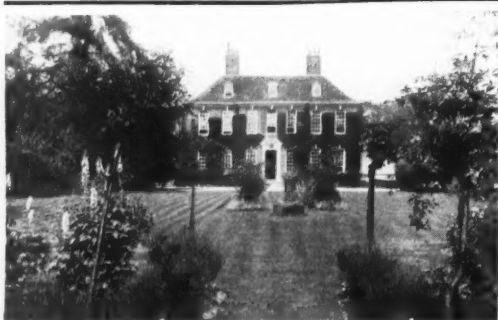
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The whole is in perfect order throughout, and most confidently recommended.

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**80 ACRES £6,000**

Would be sold with gardens only.  
Occupying a choice position.

THIS BEAUTIFUL  
**QUEEN ANNE HOUSE,**

panelled throughout and containing lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, billiard room, 11 bed and dressing rooms, etc.

Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.  
Stabling for 5. Garage.

Charming old-world grounds with tennis and other lawns, kitchen garden and excellent grassland.

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£120 PER ANNUM ON LEASE, UNFURNISHED.  
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**GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.**  
Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms, etc.; central heating, gas, independent hot water system, unfailing water supply; stabling for 5, cottage, garage, good farmbuildings; charming well-timbered grounds with tennis and other lawns, rock and water garden and good pastureland; in all about 93 ACRES.  
An adjoining farm of 81 acres with farmhouse and building can be acquired.

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FOR SALE AT LOW PRICE WITH 208 ACRES.  
**500 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL**

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BEAUTIFUL OLD BLACK-AND-WHITE HOUSE. Hall, 3 oak-beamed reception rooms, 8 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc. Electric light. Telephone. Modern drainage. Ample water supply.  
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Nice pleasure gardens with tennis court; 100 acres of pasture, 35 acres grass orchard and 60 acres arable. TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (15,001.)

**90 ACRES. MORE AVAILABLE**

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CHARMING OLD MANOR HOUSE. Pleasantly situated, enjoying south aspect with fine views over parkland to the Isle of Wight; eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, three reception and billiard room; central heating, Company's water, main drainage. Stabling, garage, fine old barn. Beautifully timbered GARDENS AND GROUNDS, disposed in tennis and ornamental lawns, etc.  
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350 ft. up with sunny open views over beautiful country. **DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER RESIDENCE.** containing ten bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, three reception and billiard room. CENTRAL HEATING. ELECTRIC LIGHT. Garage, two excellent cottages. CHARMING TERRACED GARDENS; in all FIVE ACRES.  
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50 MILES N.W. OF LONDON.  
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Fourteen bedrooms, two bathrooms. Garage and stabling. ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S WATER. COTTAGES.  
19 OR 98 ACRES.  
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WITHIN EASY REACH OF TWO GOOD MAIN LINE STATIONS.  
Seven bedrooms, Three bathrooms. ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.  
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Within easy reach of Guildford. **EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE,** commanding lovely views to Hindhead and Hascombe Hills; twelve bedrooms, three bathrooms, two reception rooms, grand hall; central heating, electric light, Company's water; garage, lodge; exquisite gardens with fine south terrace; in all about ELEVEN ACRES.  
FREEHOLD FOR SALE; OR WOULD BE LET FURNISHED.  
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A SUPERB MANSION, suitable for INSTITUTION PURPOSES, situated in GRANDLY TIMBERED GROUNDS.  
FOR SALE with FROM 8 TO 30 ACRES.  
INCLUDING THREE-ACRE LAKE IF REQUIRED.  
LOW PRICE.  
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COMPACT MINIATURE SPORTING ESTATE OF 47 ACRES (or 130 more). Perfect views over valley and mountains. GROUNDS sloping to river, affording HALF-A-MILE OF EXCELLENT FISHING. Thirteen bedrooms. Three bathrooms. CENTRAL HEATING. Garage. Stabling. Cottages. GREATLY REDUCED PRICE.  
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OLD MANOR HOUSE, perfectly modernised and faultlessly equipped; seven bedrooms. ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. First-rate stabling and garage, cottage. WONDERFUL GARDENS with new en-tout-cas tennis court.  
15 OR 22 ACRES.  
An exceptional opportunity to acquire a perfect property AT £5,650.  
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**HAWKHURST—CLOSE VILLAGE**  
A CHARACTER HOUSE on the brow of a southern slope, with beautiful views; eleven bedrooms (all with running water), three bathrooms, billiard room. ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING. Garages, three cottages; lakes, tennis courts; natural grounds of the most lovely description. FOR SALE AT A MODERATE FIGURE.  
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"GRAYLANDS," WIMBLEDON, S.W. 19 (within three minutes' walk of the Common, on gravel soil, 170 ft. above sea level).—For SALE, a few unusually attractive BUILDING SITES, situated in delightful old matured paddocks, gardens and orchard. Rural and secluded situation within six miles of Hyde Park Corner and only a few minutes' walk from stations and 'bus route and close to three good golf courses. "Graylands" House, containing three reception, billiards and ten bed and dressing rooms, will be SOLD with up to two acres of grounds. There is also a well-built garage and stable block of two storeys suitable for conversion into a commodious and attractive Residence at a moderate cost which will be sold separately. This Estate will appeal to the man who wishes to build a period house in an appropriate setting.

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FREEHOLD £3,750. Inspected.

**HERTS.**—Charming Georgian COUNTRY HOUSE. 400 ft. above sea level; four sitting rooms, eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom; Co.'s water, gas, main drainage, electric light available; stables, garage; good garden, partly walled, and orchard; about three-and-a-half acres.  
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SOUTHAMPTON AND NEW FOREST DISTRICTS.  
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Business Established over 100 years.

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CLOSE TO YACHTING ANCHORAGE.



THIS CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE enjoying a most delightful situation in this sought after residential district. It stands high with pretty views and contains two large reception rooms, garden room, six bed and dressing rooms (with fitted lavatory basins), two bathrooms, excellent offices, servants' hall; central heating, acetylene gas lighting. FIVE ACRES, including flower garden, orchard, tennis lawn, kitchen garden and paddock. PRICE £3,500 OR OFFER.

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THROUGH TRAINS TO THE CITY AND WEST END. RURAL COUNTRY.

BEAUTIFUL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE. 260 ACRES.

INTERSECTED BY A PICTURESQUE STREAM.  
MODEL HOME FARM. AGENT'S HOUSE. BAILIFF'S HOUSE.  
NUMEROUS COTTAGES.

LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE (dating from 1614), conveniently planned on two floors, embodying every possible modern comfort and with an expensively fitted BATHROOM TO EACH GUEST'S BEDROOM.

LOUNGE HALL, SEVENTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, SEVEN BATHROOMS, FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.  
MODERN SANITATION.

DOMESTIC OFFICES WHITE-TILED THROUGHOUT.

THE ESTATE has been maintained REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE and is

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

complete with the costly contents of the House, Furniture, Pictures, Wines, Motor Car, also all the live and dead stock on the Farm.

A LOW INCLUSIVE PRICE

WILL BE ACCEPTED, REPRESENTING ONLY A FRACTION OF WHAT THE PLACE HAS ACTUALLY COST THE OWNER.

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A FEW MILES FROM THE FAMOUS

### WALTON HEATH GOLF COURSE



500 FT. UP.

20 MILES OF LONDON. SPLENDID SERVICE OF TRAINS.

STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE.

THIRTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, FOUR BATHROOMS,  
LOUNGE HALL, THREE RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE.  
COMPANY'S WATER AND GAS.  
SOUTH AND WEST ASPECTS.

UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE GARDENS  
AND GROUNDS,

a special feature, adorned with many fine timber and specimen trees.

STABLING.

GARAGE.

SMALL FARMERY.

THREE COTTAGES.

A COMPACT PROPERTY OF

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(FEW MILES OF A MAIN LINE STATION).

RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE.

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INCLUDING SOME OF THE FINEST GRASSLAND IN THE COUNTRY.

MODERN TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE.

FIFTEEN PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, AMPLE SERVANTS, FIVE BATHROOMS, FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS, BILLIARD ROOM.  
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HUNTING STABLES FOR 20.

THIS HOUSE WOULD BE SOLD WITH A SMALLER AREA.

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140 ACRES.

Including 30 ACRES OF WOODLANDS, the whole lying in a ring fence.

Approached by TWO CARRIAGE DRIVES is the  
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Fifteen bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, four reception rooms.

Electric light. Central heating. Modern drainage. Good water supply.

MODEL HOME FARM.

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Delightful woodland walks.

TWO LODGES.

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UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE A PERFECT HOUSE AT A REASONABLE PRICE.



ONLY 40 MINUTES' RAIL JOURNEY.

**QUEEN ANNE MANOR**  
HOUSE, 400ft. up; glorious beechwood country.

Sixteen bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, galleried lounge hall, billiard room, fine reception rooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.  
MAIN WATER.  
CENTRAL HEATING.

Garage. Stabling. Two cottages.

BEAUTIFUL  
OLD-WORLD GARDENS, about  
40 ACRES.

Further land available, or would divide.



FREEHOLD FOR SALE, PRICE GREATLY REDUCED.

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ON HIGH GROUND IN BERKS OR HANTS.  
Gravel soil essential.

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WILL BE PAID FOR THE RIGHT PLACE.

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Under an hour from London; delightful district.

AN OLD-WORLD HOUSE of rare charm and character; superb old panelling, fine old staircase and other features; eleven bedrooms, four superb bathrooms, three reception rooms; electric light, central heating; telephone, and every convenience; stabling, garage, farmery, two cottages.

WONDERFUL AND UNIQUE GARDENS.

FOR SALE WITH 40 ACRES.

UNDOUBTEDLY AN EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY.

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### FOR A QUEEN ANNE OR GEORGIAN HOUSE

having large and lofty rooms, and being within 60 to 100 miles of London, a purchaser is

PREPARED TO PAY FROM £12,000 UPWARDS.—About twelve to fifteen bedrooms, and four large reception rooms are required, with all modern conveniences installed.

Good outbuildings, cottage and lodge. Some parkland and about 150 acres of land with

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FINE OLD XVTH CENTURY HOUSE of unique character; oaks, beams, original fireplaces, lattice windows, and other features; five bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms; central heating, constant hot water, telephone, etc.; stabling, garage, useful farm-buildings. SINGULARLY CHARMING OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

FOR SALE WITH FOURTEEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

PRICE ONLY £3,800.

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### NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

MUST PURCHASE BEFORE FEBRUARY, 1928.

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A HOUSE RIGHT IN THE COUNTRY.  
WILTS, GLOS, SALOP, WORCS, ETC.

Away from main tarred roads and traffic. Fishing and shooting essential; inexpensive hunting.

ABOUT 30 TO 40 ACRES.

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High up with fine views; close to golf links.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE, ready to step into; ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, hall, three reception rooms; main electric light, water and drainage; garage with chauffeur's flat.

EXCEPTIONALLY CHARMING GARDENS, OVER THREE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

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KENT HOUSE, 1B, KING STREET ST. JAMES'S,  
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Seven bed and dressing, three bath, three reception rooms; garage; four acres; electric light, central heating, Co.'s gas and water.

A WELL-ARRANGED MODERN RESIDENCE, recently thoroughly overhauled and redecorated; standing in four acres of grounds, and commanding glorious panoramic views. Price, Freehold, £3,750. (10,286.)



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Overlooking the Broadstone Golf Course.

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In a healthy district: almost adjoining a golf course.



**FOR SALE**, this unique modern Freehold RESIDENCE, built for owner's occupation and containing four bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, kitchen and offices; garage. Tastefully laid-out garden, with rockery, lawns and kitchen garden; the whole extending to about ONE ACRE.

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Midway between Winchester and Southampton, and within easy reach of the New Forest.

**TO BE SOLD**, this compact modern Freehold RESIDENCE, facing south, and containing eight bedrooms and dressing rooms, bathroom, two boxrooms, three reception rooms, kitchen and complete offices; garage; central heating, electric light, Company's gas and water, telephone; gravel soil. The pleasure gardens and grounds are well matured and include lawns, flower and kitchen gardens, pastureland; the whole extending to about

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Cottage, stabling, garage.

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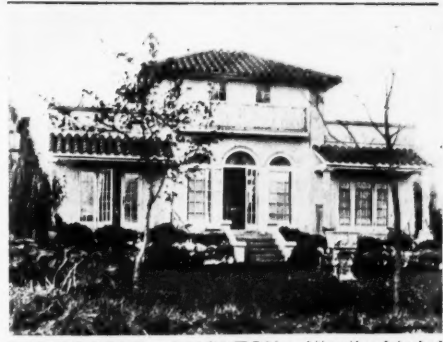
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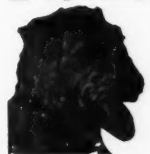
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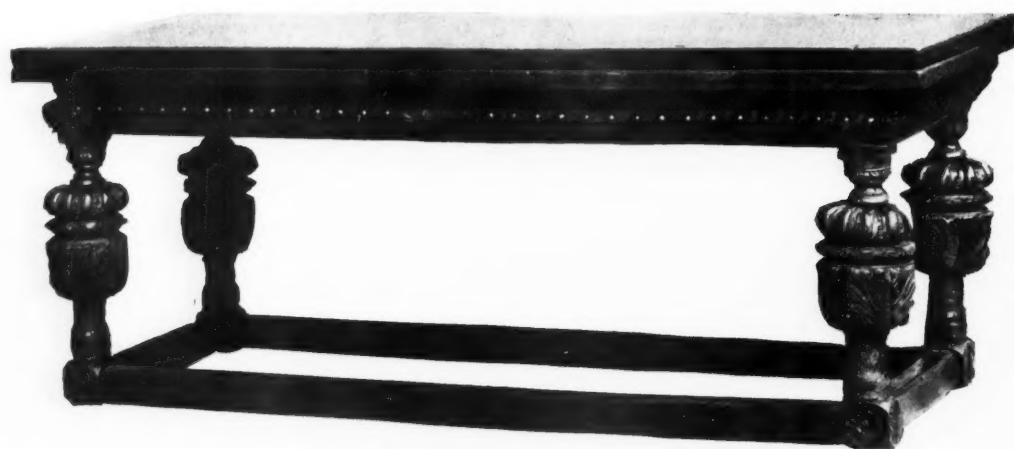
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# COUNTRY LIFE

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## MILK

THERE has recently been published by the Ministry of Agriculture a report on "The Fluid Milk Market of England and Wales" which raises issues of fundamental importance not only to the dairy industry and agriculture generally, but to national life and health. It is impossible here to cover, even briefly, the full scope of the report, which contains a complete and thoughtful study of the extent, localisation and variation in supplies of fluid milk, of its assemblage, transport and consumption, of safeguards regarding quality and the graded milk movement, and of the need and possible methods of expanding the use of milk in the dietary of the community. It is this last point alone which we wish to deal with here, for it is the most important of all. What are the arguments for, and what are the possibilities of, a widespread increase in the consumption of milk? Leaving the report for a moment, let us consider the elementary facts about milk.

Of all staple articles of food, milk is the cheapest. A quart of milk, costing about sixpence, contains as much energy value as three-quarters of a pound of good sirloin of beef costing over a shilling. Milk is too often regarded merely as a beverage, instead of a nourishing and health-giving food; too often as a liquid, whereas it contains more solid matter than many fruits and vegetables; too often as a luxury, when it is just the opposite. Indeed, in cases where household expenses have to be reduced, the first step should be to increase the milk bill rather than reduce it. But milk, besides being a cheap food, is a very good one. It is complete in itself, i.e., it contains all the nutritive substances necessary to support life. It contains no shell, bone or skin which have to be paid for, and no waste products, such as fibre or cellulose, which

have to be got rid of by the body. It is almost completely digestible, no less than 99 per cent. of its fats, 99 per cent. of its carbohydrates and 89 per cent. of its proteins being digestible. Lastly, it is particularly rich in vitamins, those mysterious substances which have been proved to be so essential to health and growth.

From these facts one would expect the consumption of milk to be high in a civilised country like ours, especially among those classes who, of necessity, look to get the best value for money when purchasing food for themselves and their families. But this is very far indeed from the case. Going back to the report, we find the following estimates of annual consumption per head of liquid milk: Switzerland, 83 gals.; Sweden, 67 gals.; Denmark, 67 gals.; United States, 46 gals. Other estimates recently published are as follows: Germany, 61 gals.; England, 22 gals.; Hawaii, 1 gal. England apparently consumes twenty-two times as much milk per head as the savages of the Pacific Islands; but this is no cause for congratulation, when she is still only half way towards the standard of America, and only one-third of the way towards Germany, Denmark and other progressive countries. This is, surely, a lamentable position, and discloses a fertile field for activity on the part of the Ministry of Health, whose duty it is to foster the national well-being.

It is well known that in any work of social reform the easiest method of progress is through the children, since adult habits are difficult to change. Now, in the case of milk, it is, fortunately, the children who for the most part appreciate it and the children who so vitally require it. Recent research has shown that boys and girls of school age receiving a pint of milk a day surpassed in a most striking manner those receiving little or none. In one experiment the average increase in weight of a large group of children was almost doubled by milk, and in all cases an improvement was effected not only in health and growth, but in brightness and general ability. It is, surely, therefore, a matter of national importance to encourage and foster in our children the consumption of this great aid to health, development and education.

There is, moreover, an important complementary aspect to the question. If the consumption of milk could be substantially increased, it would go far to restore the prosperity of agriculture as a whole. It is not always remembered that the dairy industry, with its by-products, provides about one-quarter of the total cash output of the land, and its influence on all other forms of farming, except, perhaps, the hill sheep farmer, is profound. If the consumption of milk were raised by only one-tenth of a pint per head per day (3½ tablespoonfuls), there would be an additional demand for no less than 160,000,000 gals., requiring an increase in our dairy herd of 300,000 cows. The influence of such an expansion would be felt by the arable farmer, the grazier, the breeder of stores and all occupants of grassland—in fact, by the whole countryside. Most assuredly, too, it would be reflected in better national health.

In the report which we set out to review the author suggests that the Joint Committee of Producers and Distributors should make a real effort to bring about some such expansion of consumption, and we have since been informed that the Empire Marketing Board is preparing to support a certain measure of milk publicity. We greatly trust, however, that the Government will go farther than this and seriously consider the possibilities of a real national milk campaign, launched with the whole-hearted support of all departments of State.

## Our Frontispiece

OUR frontispiece this week is a portrait of the Hon. Mrs. Ian Campbell, who is the only daughter of Lord Beaverbrook and the late Lady Beaverbrook, and was recently married to Mr. Ian Douglas Campbell, heir presumptive to the Dukedom of Argyll.

\* \* \* It is particularly requested that no permission to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted, except when direct application is made from the offices of the paper.





## COUNTRY NOTES

WE are promised, or threatened with—the precise word must depend on our feelings—a frosty, snowy “old-fashioned” Christmas. This being so, it is interesting to observe that this year marks the centenary of the most historic of all “old-fashioned” Christmases, namely, that at the hospitable Mr. Wardle’s. It was on May 12th, 1827, with Mr. Joseph Smiggers in the chair, that various epoch-making resolutions were put before the Pickwick Club, and it was on December 22nd in the same year that the Pickwickians stood “high and dry, safe and sound, hale and hearty” on the steps of the Blue Lion at Muggleton, on their way to Christmas at Dingley Dell. If there is anything that can reconcile the most Scrooge-like and unsociable of us to the festivities now imminent, it is that delightful account of Christmas jollity. So the best thing we can do is to read it again, and yet re-read, until we come to agree for the moment that it is a “fine time for them as is well wropped up, as the Polar Bear said to himself, ven he was practising his skating.”

ON the whole, the rejection of the Prayer Book measure gives cause for relief rather than for misgiving. Regarding it as an instrument towards better discipline, we doubt whether the bishops would have found the new Prayer Book as effective as they hoped it would be. Its changes are mainly in one direction, and a recent series of incidents has shown clearly that, although Anglo-Catholic sentiments are widely held, there is as strong a conviction among laymen that the pursuit of knowledge is itself a form of religious aspiration. The new Prayer Book takes no more account of this conviction than did the old one. As Sir Martin Conway expressed it: “We want something more than these ecclesiastical refinements and æsthetic frills, something more than a slight change in this or that prayer or ceremony. . . . We are waiting for the man who shall come with his lips touched with the live flame from the altar of God.” That, we feel, is the deep-seated hope of the majority of educated men and women. They cannot lead the double life, accepting evolution and scientific truth six days of the week, and solemnly disbelieving in them on the seventh. The Prime Minister was very ill-advised to say that disestablishment is the alternative to the rejection of the measure. Whatever the merits or demerits of disestablishment, it is not the logical alternative. It is highly improbable that the rejection of reform is final. Rather, it proceeded from a conviction that the reforms were too superficial and one-sided, burking the real issue: the marriage of modern thought with the fundamental truths of Christianity.

THE University Rugby match was as fast, as dramatic and as full of its own peculiar atmosphere as anyone could wish. It will not go down to history as one of the great matches, for there were too many mistakes and too

much play that might be called scrappy or scratchy; but it was a very fine, exciting show. Oxford, by scoring try for try with their enemy, did gallantly, and on the day’s play Cambridge may be accounted, perhaps, a little lucky to have won by eight points. On the other hand, it is permissible to think that, had Sobey been there at that vital point, the base of the scrummage, several of the Cambridge attacks which, as it was, were just thwarted would have been just successful. Sobey’s substitute worked hard in an unenviable situation, but he lacked that little extra speed in getting the ball away that would have meant so much to the two men on the wing. On the Wednesday, under conditions as horrid as those of the Tuesday had been good, the Association teams met, and Oxford triumphed splendidly over the mud, as they did over Cambridge to the tune of six goals to two. The empty terraces at Stamford Bridge made a depressing contrast with the packed stands at Twickenham, but there was a good deal of enthusiasm under cover, and Oxford entirely deserved it.

ROADSIDE planting has become fairly general, particularly along the new arterial roads of greater London. The last report on the Road Fund also contains particulars of what is being done in other parts of the country. Some county councils are planting the roads that have recently been widened and straightened. This is particularly desirable where cuttings, embankments and irregular wayside strips offer opportunities for something more than formal avenues. In New York the main exit roads are bounded all along their course by intentionally wide and irregular strips, which are “planted up wild” and to form elongated parks; whence they are called parkways. The advantage is that urban development either side the road is invisible to the traveller. At many places on our new roads such screens of shrubs and trees are practicable. In recent avenue planting we have not noticed any use of a most suitable and decorative tree, the Cornish or Channel Island elm, which is such a feature in the avenues of Eastbourne. Its upright habit shades, but does not drip over, the road; while its formal shape, like a fat cypress, is most suitable for avenues.

### THE SQUARE GARDEN.

In winter when the trees are bare  
They spread their branches wide and high  
In delicate inky tracery  
Against the misty evening air.

A still and perfect harmony  
Possesses all the twilit square  
In winter when the trees are bare  
And spread their branches wide and high.

Those boughs, when green and debonair  
Full-leaved they took the sunny sky  
In summer, all their gallantry  
Had not the beauty now they wear  
In winter when the trees are bare. L.

MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN has welcomed the offer of the Royal Institute of British Architects to set up panels of architects who will advise voluntarily on the reconditioning of cottages under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. As yet, little advantage has been taken of the Act. Up till October, local authorities had received only 271 applications, and work had been started on only thirteen cottages. The reason must be ignorance of the Act’s existence and, possibly, a slight hostility to it by overworked local authorities. The annual sum available is £60,000. It is to be used in bringing rural cottages up to modern standards of habitation and in converting buildings not previously inhabited. The conditions have been designed so that the tenants, and not the landlords, will be benefited. Houses so reconditioned may not be let to “week-enders.” The cost of repairs must come to at least £50, and the value of the dwelling after repair must not exceed £400. Not more than £100 may be granted for any one job, but loans are given up to 90 per cent. of the value of the building after repair.

The value of the architects' panels will be that they will have the authority to look for cottages in need of repair, to ascertain the facts relating to their tenure, and then to bring them before the attention of local authorities with an official recommendation. They will also advise on the methods of repair best suited to individual cases.

**BOTH** the Charing Cross and Ludgate Bridge proposals, made last winter by the Royal Commission on Cross River Traffic, are being discouraged by the experts engaged on working out the details. The engineers' report on the Charing Cross scheme—on which depends the fate of Waterloo Bridge—is not yet published, but their disapproval of it is no secret, nor, in view of the previous attitude of at least one of them, to be wondered at. Mr. Basil Mott's early conviction that Waterloo Bridge must go may or may not be the truth, but it was, surely, a mistake to include a prejudiced mind on what should have been an unbiassed committee. The Bridge House Estates seem to have given fair consideration to the Ludgate proposal, although they already hold much of the land needed for the earlier project for a St. Paul's Bridge. Their most valid objection to a Ludgate Bridge, and it appears difficult to answer, is that its northern approach, through Smithfield, is impracticable without moving the market. On the other hand, the cardinal objection to the St. Paul's Bridge project remains undiminished, namely, the inevitable danger to the structure of bringing main north and south traffic streams right against the east end of the Cathedral. We would suggest that the whole problem be viewed afresh, with the object not of building a new bridge, but of spending the £5,000,000 of its estimated cost on making the northern approaches to Southwark Bridge such that a new bridge would be unnecessary.

**ON** Wednesday Room VI at the National Gallery was reopened, as re-arranged to contain the early Northern Italian schools; and early in January the new room adjoining it will be reopened, which contains the Mond Bequest and continues the north and south axis of the gallery. East of Room VI, Room VII has already been re-arranged with the great Venetian pictures; while the transference of the Mond collection to its new quarters has liberated the small Room XXVI for the late Venetians formerly grouped in Room VII. A large number of important works belonging to these schools has been brought up from the reference section, so that now, for the first time in the National Gallery's history, it is possible to proceed methodically from Givelli and the early Paduan and Ferrarese painters, through Mantegna and Bellini, to Palma and Giorgione, Titian and the Brescians, then on to Tiepolo and Guardi, and to see, in the progress, all of importance that the Gallery has to show. The reappearance of the reference section pictures, and their fine quality, makes one wish warmly that somebody, wishing to perpetuate his name and to benefit painting, would add yet another gallery to enable the banished Dutch pictures, which congestion alone relegates to the vaults, to be brought up. The Mond Room has cost only £10,000—the price of a second-rate Reynolds picture. With one or two additional rooms, the existing Dutch galleries could be reorganised and their masterpieces be more worthily hung.

**IT** is to be hoped that in a generation or two we shall be a far, far healthier nation. The wartime discovery of our unfitness led to the establishment of the School Medical Service, by which all children attending public elementary schools are periodically medically examined and facilities given for proper medical advice and treatment. The effect, not only of this inspection, but of sensible health teaching in schools, is already being felt. The figures show that there is a steady improvement in physique, but that from a quarter to a third of the children entering school need some medical attention. It may be that there is dental trouble, or it may be tonsils or defective eyesight, but in the process of examination this is discovered and put right in time. Little by little we are reforming the social life of the people, and nowadays improved conditions of housing, better food and clothing and greater knowledge

of the importance of cleanliness and fresh air are all having a good effect. Working in connection with the school services are school clinics, centres for orthopaedic treatment, centres for ultra-violet light treatment, and a whole chain of organisations for treatment of special problems. Some twenty years from now we shall begin to see the real effect on our national health.

**I**N spite of scientific incredulity, we still cling to a belief in water diviners because we find quite a number of people, many of them amateurs of the highest probity, in whose hands the twig moves. Whether they correctly indicate the presence of water is another matter. We hear of the successful attempts, but it is doubtful if we hear as much about the failures. It is now suggested that the way in which the hazel twig is held is responsible for its unconscious movement and rotation. This is, of course, possible, but, unfortunately for the scientists, some water diviners do not hold a forked twig in the traditional way, but are content with a straight wand. In fact, we find that the actual implements are unimportant, and that it is the possession of a specific gift or power which is claimed by "dowsers." The physicist is, therefore, ruled out of court, and the enquiry, if enquiry there is to be, comes into the department of the psychologist. The tendency of the age is to leave us too few myths, but even the most crushing of scientific exposures will not disconcert the true believer, for it is much pleasanter to believe in a special gift than in a jargon of complexes and reflexes. These, when all is said and done, do not in the least explain how it is that, although popular belief in astrology has perished and we no longer—

tell by Venus and the moon  
who stole a thimble or a spoon,

yet we find that water diviners are still really useful in this, a frankly utilitarian age.

#### A DREAM OF WINTER.

These flowers survive their lover bees,  
Whose deep bass voices filled the air;  
The cuckoo and the nightingale  
Have come and gone, we know not where.

Now, in this green and silent world,  
In Autumn, full of smiling light,  
I hear a bird that, suddenly,  
Startles my hearing and my sight.

It is the Robin, singing of  
A silver world of snow and frost;  
Where all is cold and white—except  
The fire that's on his own warm breast.

W. H. DAVIES.

**THE** report of the Food Council on Fish Prices has been unexpectedly reassuring. The Council declare that, after investigation, they are satisfied that there is nothing fishy about it. Wholesalers, salesmen and retailers are acquitted of any charge of profiteering. Nevertheless, the cost of fish is still double its pre-war price and, so far as one can see, unlikely to come down. The reason for this is, very largely, because the housewife insists on large fish, and the natural supply of large fish has been very much reduced. The suggestive part of the Council's report is that the lesser known kinds of fish should be exploited. Many are excellent eating, but suffer from uncouth names. The housewife instinctively recoils from a fillet of catfish, a grilled megrim or a nice dish of fried witch, but if the disguise of new names were applied as happily by the fish trade as it is by the furrier, this might be overcome.

**THE** Minister of Agriculture's enquiries into the existing methods of marketing farm produce go forward apace, and the familiar orange-coloured reports are coming out almost too quickly to allow of a thorough study of one being made before another follows on its heels. The latest to be issued is a most exhaustive Report on Markets and Fairs in the Midland Area. Such comprehensive information has not previously been available, and will be



of great value to local authorities and their market committees. It is to be hoped, too, that attention will be drawn to the widespread reform demanded by modern methods and the increased centralisation of buying. Marketing facilities still remain, for the most part, as they were in the days when each market existed to supply the needs of its own vicinity: the needs of the concentrated consuming centres have been met not by reorganisation, but by a network of dealers and middlemen who absorb the profit,

and often more than the profit, of livestock husbandry in this country. It is surely time, as we have already urged in these columns, that the four parties concerned—buyers, farmers, auctioneers and market owners—should reconstitute the arrangements of their districts with a view to eliminating the smaller markets and strengthening the bigger ones. The wide development of road transport makes this, for the first time, possible, and all those concerned would, in the long run, reap the benefit.

## THE NEW EMBASSY at WASHINGTON

SIR EDWIN LUTYENS' DESIGNS.

THE present Embassy building at Washington is a former country house which has been swallowed up by the expanding city. Neither its neighbourhood nor its accommodation and appearance is very suitable to modern needs. Moreover, an imminent street-widening involves the destruction of the large projecting porch that is the principal architectural feature of its front. Thus, there was every reason why the Embassy should be moved, when an arrangement was entered into for the exchange of the old site for one on the rising ground north-west of the city.

The new site is ideal. It is like the letter "T" in shape, with the foot of the T giving on to Massachusetts Avenue and facing north-east. To the north-west the land rises to Observatory Hill, and to the south-east there is an uninterrupted view over the city and to the Capitol. It is necessary to keep in mind the shape of the site to appreciate Sir Edwin Lutyens' felicitous manner of fitting his plan to it.

An embassy consists of two parts: the residence of the ambassador, which needs to have fine rooms for entertainment, but does not require immediate access from the road; and the chancery, which, transacting the ordinary round of business, needs as direct access as possible. In a great garden city like Washington, moreover, an embassy needs a garden for parties, and the character of the building can be that of a country house. This factor allows the new Embassy to have the architectural character most typical of England. Sir Edwin Lutyens has been free to work in the manner in which he is without a rival.

Combining the exigences of the site with the needs of the building, a plan has been produced that is a delight in itself. The narrow "stalk" of the site, giving on to Massachusetts Avenue, accommodates the chancery—a central block with projecting wings facing north-west. The further part of the site contains the Embassy and gardens, overlooking the Capitol and facing south-east. The fall of the ground from the west and north, bringing the ground floor of the Embassy level with the first floor of the chancery, makes it possible to join the two buildings by means of the ambassador's room, beneath which is a large *porte cochère* (Fig. 2), from which entrance is gained to the Embassy by a drive going round the chancery buildings. Adjoining the ambassador's room to the north-east is the counsellor's room, occupying the centre of the chancery façade and accessible either from the *porte cochère* or from the chancery forecourt.

The Embassy thus has an impressive entrance, which is yet tucked away in its basement. This ingenious arrangement leaves the south-east and south-west fronts of the Embassy in immediate contact with the gardens, and gives the domestic offices ample accommodation in the north-west corner of the site, with an independent approach from Massachusetts Avenue. The portico that fills the centre of the south-east front is a social, not a business, feature, and forms the outward expression of the ballroom, which occupies the ground floor to the north-west. The Embassy, in fact, is of the H-plan familiar in English country houses, with the portico filling the front and the ballroom the back. The horizontal stroke of the H is the



1.—THE EMBASSY BUILDING, FROM THE SOUTH.  
You look from the portico directly over to the Capitol.

backbone of the building, which rises to full height. Through this backbone runs a great passage on the ground floor. At the chancery end is the counsellor's office, then the ambassador's room, approached by a bridge over the entrance staircase. At the far end the passage is closed by French windows, beyond which it is carried on by a garden vista to an object at the extremity of the site. This was designed to be a little temple of peace, built of stone, which would be visible right through the house from the doors of the ambassador's room, and even from the counsellor's if the former were open. Economy has eliminated it, but the architect is rightly resolved not to forego this delightful conception, but to contrive a similar object in trellis and greenery.

This is the dominating axis of the plan. The subsidiary portico-ballroom axis is carried on by a courtyard outside the ballroom windows to the north-west. The court is surrounded by the domestic offices, with the two-storey kitchen occupying the more westerly of the pyramidal roofs that are seen in the general view. The garage is on a level above the house, and the back of it forms a terminal feature in the garden (Fig. 1).

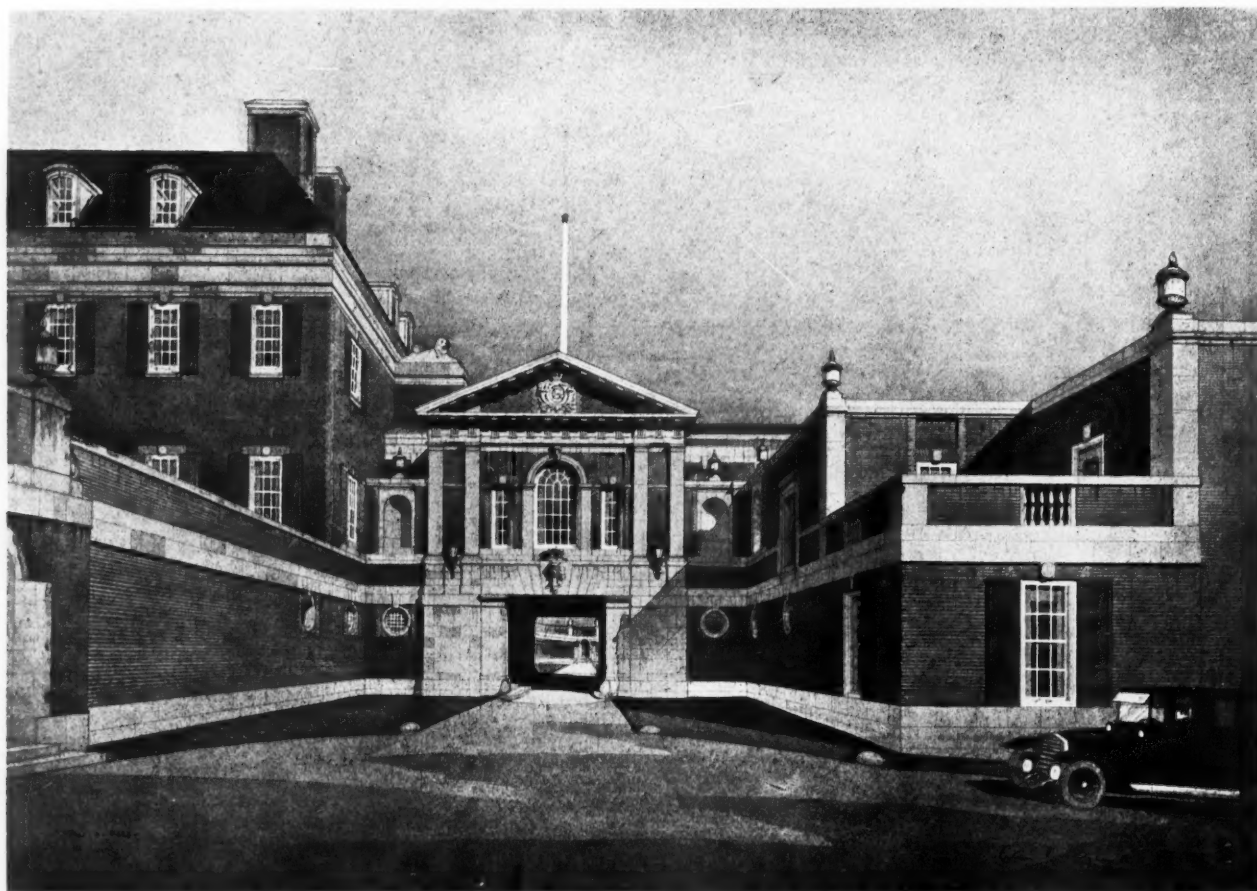
Among other important features of the plan, the circular stone staircase ascending from the corridor takes a prominent

The upper storey and attic of the right-hand wing are destined for archives, their counterpart as a flat for the caretaker. The wings themselves contain the secretarial and other offices, with the counsellor's room in the centre over the entrance. In strict elevation, the high wings frame the porticoed centre, above which rises the roof of the Embassy building.

Coming round to the side, we see the delightful bridge that connects the two buildings and accommodates the ambassador's room. This looks out to the south-east, the opposite side of the bridge being occupied by a passage room. Beneath the *porte cochère* is the triple entrance to the Embassy, whence a staircase conducts to the main level. The handling of the elevation of this bridge is a fine example of English design.

To the left rises the main building and the retaining wall of the garden, some idea of the treatment of which is given in Fig. 1. This view brings out the derivation from Wren with particular clarity; yet, there is not the remotest suggestion of imitation. The design is full of imagination and practical sense, at the same time being in a characteristically national style.

At the west end we get a frankly baroque central feature of the kind that Wren—and Vanbrugh in his Board of Works



2.—THE PORTE COCHERE AND AMBASSADOR'S ROOM, CONNECTING THE CHANCERY AND EMBASSY BUILDINGS.

place. Its effect will be exceedingly impressive, for the whole is a composition of curves—the under sides of the flights being spherical.

We have examined the plan before the elevations because the outside of the building expresses the interior arrangement so beautifully. Sir Edwin Lutyens has never related plan and elevations with greater lucidity and charm. Nor has he ever produced a more completely English design. In general characteristics the Embassy resembles Wren's Chelsea Hospital, with its great roofs and chimneys, and that pleasant dignity which made Carlyle exclaim that he always felt when passing the Hospital that Sir Christopher was a gentleman. That combination of qualities animates this building, so that it may itself be considered as an ambassador representing the most agreeable aspects of English life.

The material used is brick: grey-red fillings with brighter red coigns, stone facings and green shutters.

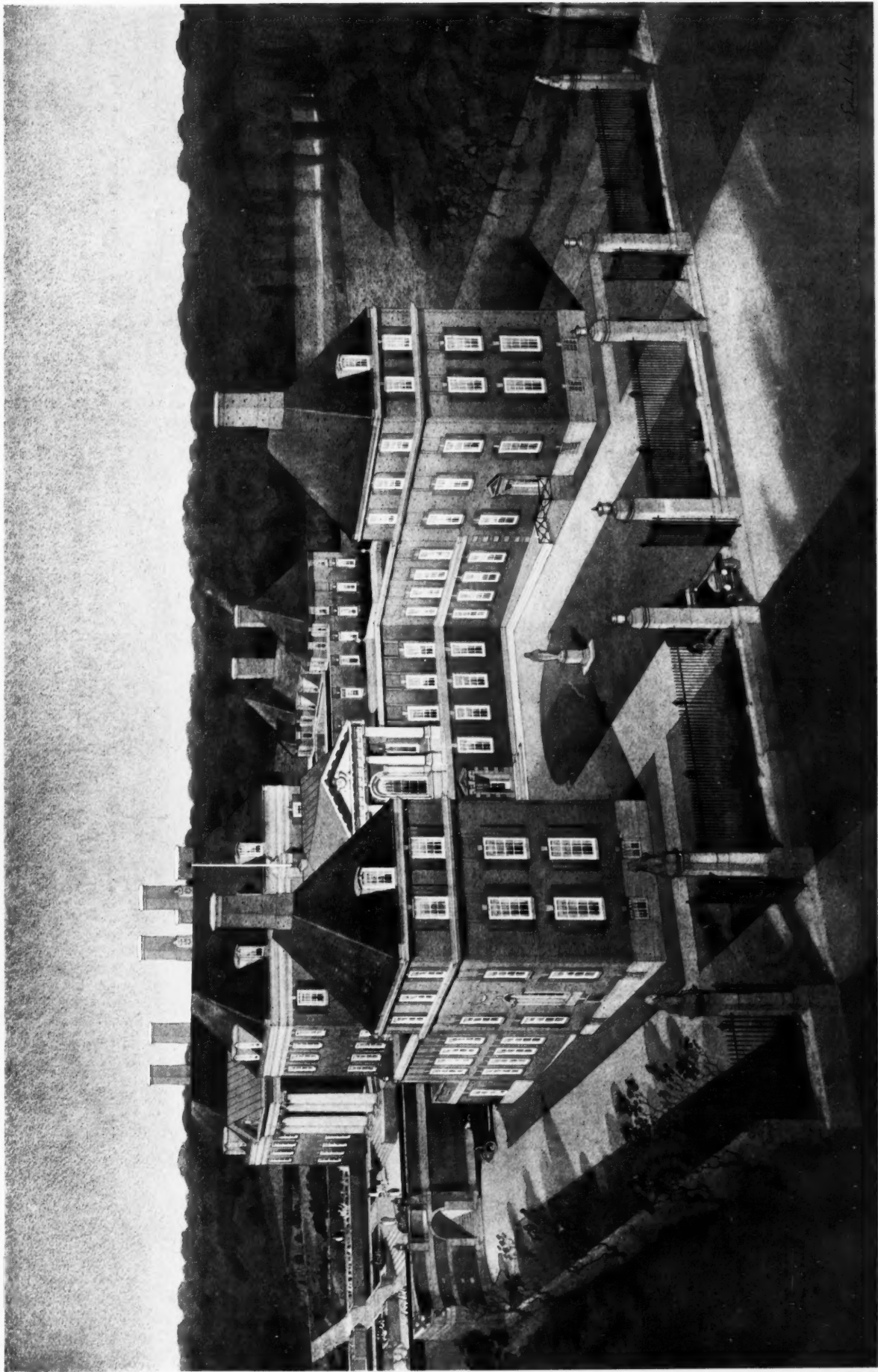
Approaching the chancery from down-hill, the dominating ends of the wings act as pylons. Some years ago I remember Sir Edwin saying that, in a design running up a slope, a dominating mass was wanted at the bottom. Here this conviction has been put into practice with very striking effect.

phases—sometimes used. A richly rusticated doorway, which marks the end of the axial passage, is flanked by pilasters capped by sections of cornice and supporting a segmental pediment.

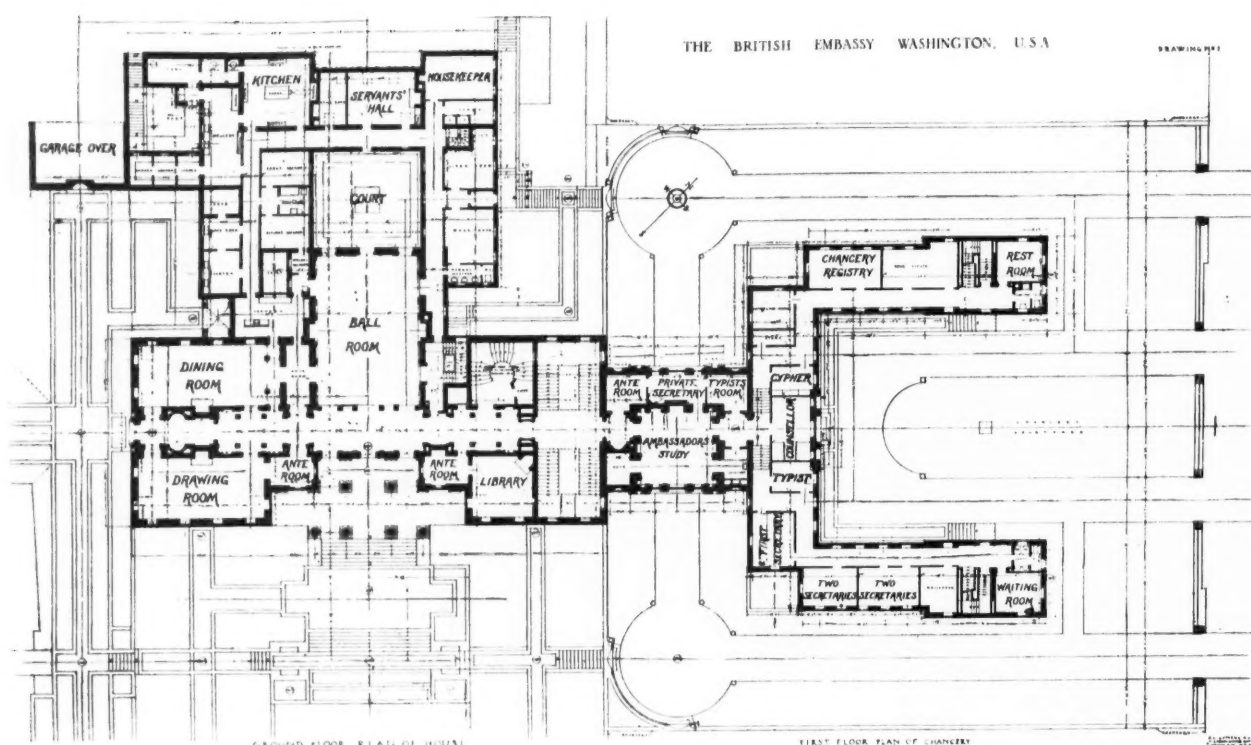
The plans have been passed by the Office of Works and were recently inspected by Members of Parliament. Work will be put in hand immediately. It will be executed by American contractors, though with English specifications. A remarkable set of sixty-eight sheets of drawings has been made out. English architects often have their American colleagues held up as examples to them in the matter of detailed drawings. Indeed, Americans are prone to be no more respectful of English methods in architecture than they are in any other field of activity. But I understand that this set of drawings has created something of a sensation even in the land of meticulous detail.

Since the happy days before the war, when Sir Edwin Lutyens developed his style in a series of country house designs, there has been little opportunity of showing how this side of his art was getting on, though two or three important country houses by him are nearing completion. The Embassy has provided him with an opportunity in domestic architecture.





3.—GENERAL VIEW FROM THE EAST.  
In the foreground is the chancery, with the Embassy building beyond.



4.—PLAN OF THE PRINCIPAL FLOOR.

As we might expect, he has got right away from his somewhat ultra-picturesque early manner. Though he retains unchanged his love of brick and of rich detail, his official and city practice has added a power of restraint. So genial a mind could never, thank Heaven! produce the grim and ponderous

pile that reinforced concrete and the modernity spirit generate. But the trend of modern design to rely more and more on defined mass and untroubled planes is very clearly reflected in Mr. Farey's perspectives of Sir Edwin Lutyens' latest "country house."

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

## A BOOK FOR COUNTRYMEN

When Squires and Farmers Thrived: Memoirs of the Eighteenth-Seventies, by A. G. Bradley. (Methuen 10s. 6d.).

THIS is, obviously, a book for countrymen, and for older countrymen at that. It will be those whose memories go back to other days and other manners, and those whose memories are something akin, in kind at least, to Mr. Bradley's, who will savour its excellence to the full. The younger generation who have country tastes may enjoy it from another point of view, marvelling that in the lifetime of their own grandparents so many and great changes in so many directions—in sport; in agricultural practice; in social life, particularly in Scotland; in the condition of the labourer and his employer's attitude towards him, and a hundred more—should have come to pass. There are pages in this book describing doings of less than fifty years ago which seem incredibly far off to-day, so that even those who shared in them must look back with a kind of bewilderment, wondering how it was that we bridged the great gulf fixed between the now and the then.

This book, though it does not deal with Devonshire, is, as it were, a continuation of the "Exmoor Memories" which enchanted every West Countryman, and many others, a year or two ago. It covers a broader field, with memories of Cambridge and Cambridgeshire, Durham, East Lothian, Aberdeenshire, Wiltshire, the New Forest, South Ireland and Virginia. The choice is wide enough, but the cloven hoof peeps out, for it seems that nothing in English scenery interests Mr. Bradley greatly save what lies west of a line which—

runs just east of the Dorset-Devon and Devon-Somerset boundary. Thence beyond the Bristol Channel it zigzags up through Hereford and Shropshire to the Welsh and Cheshire borderline. Then with a gap it roughly divides Lancashire, and enclosing most of Yorkshire and the Peak district of Derbyshire, cuts across to the Yorkshire coast.

Yet even the East Anglian will probably forgive him for the sparkling charm of many of his pages, his clear-cut pictures of worthies, such as, of agriculture, George Hope of Fentonbarns; of hospitality, old Mr. Darling of Priestlaw, who never spoke to you again if you passed his door without calling for a dram; of sport, the strange, lonely septuagenarian who kept the only pack of otter-hounds in Scotland in those days, cared not a

straw whether anyone followed them and was known on occasion to sleep in his van; and of the church, the Rector of B—n, "the laziest man in England."

The great attraction of this book for many readers and its ultimate value to the historian will lie in Mr. Bradley's account of Scottish agriculture in the great days of its prosperity, when "Scots Lowland lairds, from being too poor to face London society, were drawing rents which made Norfolk or Shropshire look foolish." Even for the general reader there is much to attract here; "the great sweeps of tillage patterned in large rectangular fields . . . hardly a tree in the nearer landscape, nor a thicket, nor a patch of waste ground" become alive as he peoples them for us with old Hugh Bertram, with his brisk Scottish hinds and the cackling company of the bondagers.

Mr. Bradley has not laid himself out to recall and tell good stories, but no man who has spent much of his life in the company of old-fashioned countrymen can avoid knowing many, for a good story was with them a cherished possession, a social qualification, almost the property of the man who told it. Some are witty, but this reminiscence of the early nineteenth century is, perhaps, the most suitable to transcribe at this moment. It tells—

how an ingenious soul acquired a horse and trap gratis from a couple of Resurrectionists. In this case the genius in question, while walking on the road one night, noticed a trap just ahead of him pull up at a roadside inn, and two men get out of it and enter the house, leaving a third on the back seat. The observer, his suspicions aroused by something in the appearance of the latter, hastened up and found them verified, the figure on inspection proving to be a corpse. Not being troubled with nerves, our friend bundled the body out, and laying it in the ditch took its place in the trap. The Resurrectionists, their courage fortified, emerged from the inn, jumped up in front, and drove off unsuspectingly with their backs against that of the supposed corpse. By degrees uncanny feelings crept over them. One swore the back passenger pressed warm against him. The other, outwardly scouting his companions' tremors, began to lose nerve under the horrible suggestion. The corpse's substitute in the meantime contrived such subtle movements as to increase the growing terrors of the guilty pair, and unstrung their nerves without giving any too pronounced signs of life. When by their conversation he judged them to be sufficiently under the influence of fear, night and superstition, he heaved a deep groan, and gave a push with his back about which there could be no possible misconception. Uttering a wild cry of "Man, it's alive,"



the pair leaped out and fled into the night, while the "corpse" drove the trap home for better uses, and naturally enough was never called upon to restore it.

A story for a Christmas fireside, indeed, and from a book through which blows the very air of what, to that elderly reader who will love it best, were the good old days. S.

**Rhodes: A Life**, by J. G. McDonald. (Allan, 21s.)

PERHAPS the fullest years of Rhodes's full life were those spent in making Rhodesia. Its primitive conditions, the hardihood of its pioneer settlers and the uncertain child-like psychology of its natives, all constituted an environment that stimulated his many-sided nature to the utmost. From 1891, when Rhodes first entered Rhodesia, to the day of his death, Mr. McDonald was his constant companion and friend, and he has succeeded in giving a graphic and intimate account of Rhodes during those later years of his life. Rhodes combined in himself two opposite qualities. On the one hand he abounded in practical commonsense, while on the other he was a poet and a visionary. To both these qualities Rhodesia was an abiding stimulus. In mastering the thousand and one difficulties that beset the country's speedy development he carried out to the uttermost his own motto, "that work is the great secret of life." Nothing escaped his observation, and he discovered the special virtue of a Rhodesian grass which is known throughout the Empire to-day as Rhodes's grass. If his relation to the settlers was somewhat that of a feudal lord whose cheque book was always open to those who, for one reason or another, could not make good, to the natives he was more than a feudal lord—he was their father in whose justice they had infinite confidence. Of this patriarchal attitude Mr. McDonald has many interesting stories to tell. Essentially dramatic and eloquent was the speech of the representative of the Matabele at Rhodes's memorial service on the Matoppos. At the conclusion of the service this aged chief came forward and called in his native tongue, "We greet you Separator of the Fighting Balls. We are your people. Intercede for us in the Hereafter." Interesting as is Mr. McDonald's record of the practical scale of Rhodes's character, the revelations he gives of him as a dreamer have a deeper significance. Rhodes loved his garden because it was to him a place for contemplation—but in the still vast silences of the Rhodesian veldt with its chaos of weather-worn kopje and the rock he found a deeper source of inspiration. The chance discovery of "the world's view" from the Matoppos was a vital episode in Rhodes's psychic and mystic life. Two years after this brief discovery he returned to renew his experience of the place, but neither he nor his party could re-discover it. This seriously affected Rhodes both mentally and physically, until, at last, Mr. McDonald succeeded in locating it. To this wonderful spot, whenever

possible, Rhodes would retire, and amid its infinite silence spend silent hours, losing himself in thoughts sacred to himself. Perchance visioning not only a greater Anglo-Saxon race, but a greater human family—more human and more spiritual than that which for the moment occupies this planet.

**The Judgment of Francois Villon**, by Herbert Edward Palmer. (Hogarth Press, 25s.)

EVERY discriminating student of the poetry of to-day knows that, though his work may be unequal, there is a streak of genius in Mr. Herbert Palmer. His verse is at times almost naïve, but it sounds at other moments a note that cannot be imitated by mere cleverness and which betokens the true poet. That note is the note of the *ballade*, and though Mr. Palmer at times reminds us of Blake there is no mistaking his affinity with Villon. It was only as it should be, therefore, that in this play he should so successfully bring the vagabond poet to life. There is not, it must be admitted, very much drama in this play; there is no suspense, and little plot. But the play is called "a pageant episode drama," and, like every other artist, Mr. Palmer has the right to be judged by his intentions. Produced upon a stage, his play would have pageantry, would certainly be episodic, and some of the episodes would have dramatic moments. But it is as a character study that the play primarily succeeds. Anyone could have soaked themselves in the literature of the period until they had arrived at the right kind of strange oath or coarse similitude for this highly coloured place and period. But Mr. Palmer does more; he puts into Villon's mouth words which we feel he might indeed have uttered, without being voted (as Cyrano de Bergerac, judged by the English translation, must have been voted) a *poseur* and a bore. "If anyone has lied about me, may he be hanged howling, and his perfidious tongue stewed in the water that has washed lepers": that sort of thing sounds right, but might be called merely competent in anyone trying to catch the flavour of the time; but Villon's soliloquy on leaving the prison pit at Meung, where six months' torture has made him an old man while still in the early thirties, is more than competent: it is deeply moving. This is a book which no one interested in the real literature of to-day could afford to overlook.

#### A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST

SOME PARLIAMENTARY RECOLLECTIONS, by the Rt. Hon. Sir James Agg Gardner, M.P. (E. J. Burtow, 25s.); LIFE AND LETTERS OF ADMIRAL CORNWALLIS by G. Cornwallis-West (Holden, 30s.); THE LIFE AND WORK OF AN ENGLISH LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, by Thomas H. Mawson, F.L.S. (The Richards Press, 25s.); HANS ANDERSEN AS HE WAS, by Elith Rørmønt (Methuen, 10s. 6d.); BROTHER SAUL, by Donn Byrne (Sampson, Low, 7s. 6d.); JOSIE VINE, by M. F. Perham (Hutchinson's, 7s. 6d.); THE STORY OF IVY, by Mrs. Belloc Lowndes (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.); ARADINE, by Eden Phillpotts (Faber and Gwyer, 6s.)

## AN ALL-ROUND DAIRY HERD

THE popularity of the dairy shorthorn as a breed is proved by the widespread support which is accorded to it. At various times other breeds have made a bid to place themselves on an equal footing, but pride of place is still claimed by the red, white and roan cattle. There must be a definite reason for this considerable measure of support which the breed receives, and it is generally agreed to be due to the all-round qualities which the dairy shorthorn possesses. The term "dual-purpose" has a very significant meaning for the majority of farmers in this country, in that it implies milk and meat, and it is in this sphere that the dairy shorthorn has proved its worth. The breed is not without its critics, however, and these, incidentally, may often be regarded as friends in disguise, particularly if the criticisms are merited and if there are

breeders sufficiently interested to take note of those criticisms. The perfect breed has yet to be created, but the great feature of the dairy shorthorn in the past has been that the perfect animal has been realised in a few instances, which encourages the further pursuit of it in the entire herd. In assessing the success of breeders in attaining this throughout a whole herd, one has to recognise that many failures have to be recorded. The breeding of dual-purpose animals is a complicated business, and the sooner this is recognised the quicker will be the resulting progress. Some have gone so far as to claim that the uncertainty (or gamble) of breeding is the factor which appeals most strongly, but this view is losing much of its charm in face of the stern economic realities which exist in the world of agriculture to-day. Breeders cannot afford to waste time and money in pursuing



PART OF THE EAGLESFIELD HERD.



LADY DOREEN 17TH, LADY CLOVELLY AND LADY DOREEN 9TH.  
Winners of the Thornton Cup, Royal Show, 1927, for best three females from one herd.

an ideal with equipment which is, from the outset, calculated to only partially achieve the object in view. The importance of this subject has prompted me to place on record the methods and practices of one of the younger school of breeders, *viz.*, those of Mr. G. P. Golden of Eaglesfield, Leire, near Rugby.

Mr. Golden has now been breeding dairy shorthorns for some thirteen years, having turned aside from a business career when his hobby of farming began to absorb the whole of his interests. One is sometimes inclined to think that those who make the greatest headway in farming to-day are the ones who are not tied down to the dictates of what is known as farming tradition and who will employ their own common-sense. There has certainly been a display of originality in Mr. Golden's breeding enterprises, but it is the nature of the results which have already established a name for the Eaglesfield herd. No breeder can ever hope to make headway unless he starts out with an ideal, and it is interesting to observe that Mr. Golden's ideal is to breed a show cow that will average 1,000 gallons of milk, with a calf each year. A "show cow" implies the possession of an extraordinary degree of breed character, and a frame which exemplifies the dual-purpose ideal at its best, and there can be no question about the quality of the herd which the illustrations emphasise.

At the time that Mr. Golden was founding his herd, the late Lord Rothschild of Tring was then the leading breeder of dairy shorthorns, and it was with private purchases from Tring Park that the Eaglesfield herd was started. At Tring, however, there was one line of blood in particular, *viz.*, that of Darlington Cranford 5th, which fascinated Mr. Golden from the breeding viewpoint. Darlington Cranford 5th was, without question, the greatest milking and breeding cow in the history of the breed. Her history is somewhat linked up with romance, for when Lord Rothschild's agent was laying the foundations of the Tring herd from the celebrated Cranford herd, a little red heifer calf was thrown in "for luck." That calf developed into Darlington Cranford 5th, whose milk average with her first eight calves was 12,538lb. Complaints have recently been made that there is a great scarcity of famous old cows, but Darlington Cranford 5th gave 14,684lb. of milk in 307 days when over twelve years old. A record of that kind is ample proof of strong constitution,

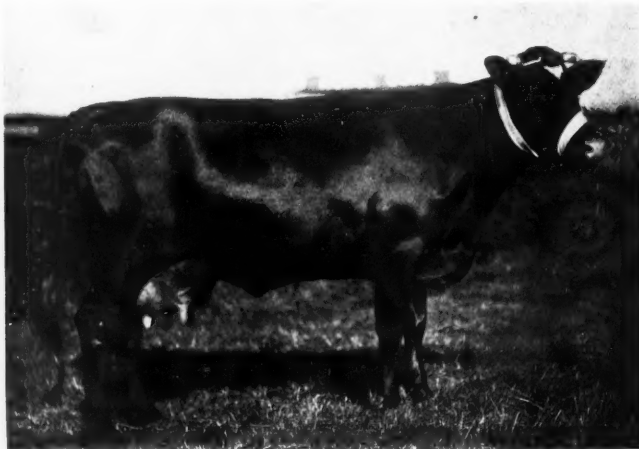
yet her claim to fame is not based on her achievements as a yielder of milk, but as the dam of three celebrated bulls which transmitted her phenomenal milking properties. These bulls were Conjuror 91310, Dreadnought 102049, and Foundation Stone 105524. At Royal Shows alone, eight first prizes, six seconds, six thirds, one championship and four reserve championships have been won with cows got by the sons of Darlington Cranford 5th or of her line of breeding. She herself gave 78lb. of milk in twenty-four hours at the 1908 Royal Show, and won first and special in the butter test and first in the milking trials.

Records of this kind are worthy of emulation, and Mr. Golden has acted on the principle that "like begets like," for practically every animal in his herd contains the blood of Darlington Cranford 5th through her three sons mentioned above, and especially through a cow called Dorcas, which was sired by Conjuror. There is much wisdom in limiting the number of blood lines in a herd to a few proved ones, since it ensures greater certainty in breeding, as well as making it easier for the whole herd to conform to a definite type, with the minimum of variation. Uniformity is the hall-mark of successful breeding, particularly when it is representative of excellence throughout a herd. By that test Mr. Golden's breeding results place him among the coterie of successful breeders. One often finds that indefinable term "luck" is sometimes the master key of a breeder's initial successes; but any measure of success which has attended Mr. Golden's efforts as a breeder have been by design. These breeding experiences have, indeed, been so remarkable that the breeding of high-class dairy shorthorns has been practically reduced to an absolute certainty.

It should be realised that from the outset Mr. Golden has always had a close regard for performance. It is obvious, however, that there are various grades of performance, and it is not too much to say that the Eaglesfield standard is an exacting one. Up to date, the aims in view have been amply fulfilled, and a few examples will serve to illustrate the consistent breeding which obtains in the herd. One of the most famous of the foundation breeding cows was Dorcas, by Darlington Cranford 5th's famous son Conjuror. Her record as a breeder is fascinating. She bred more winners in the open pedigree dairy shorthorn classes than any cow living, while her offspring in under ten years,

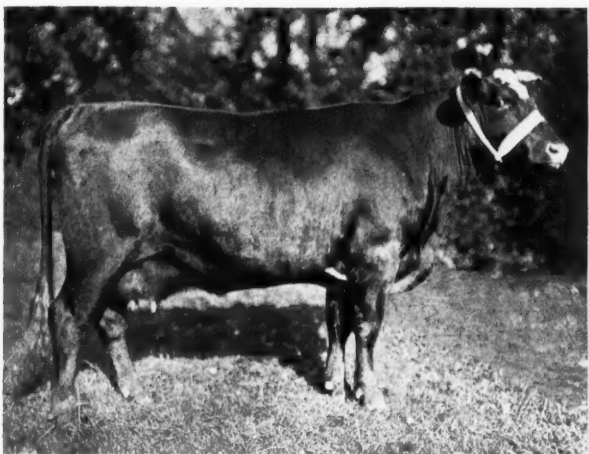


BETSY GREY 2ND.  
First prize, Royal Show, 1919.



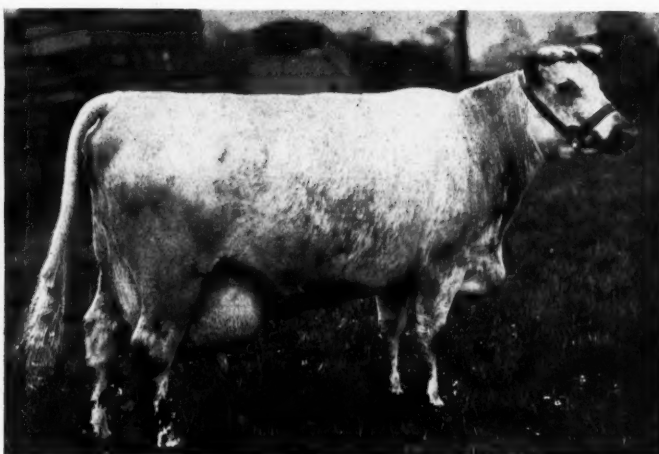
LADY DOREEN 6TH.  
First prize, Royal Show, 1924.





LADY DOREEN 16TH.

Winner of two firsts and Shorthorn Society's Prize, Royal Counties Show, 1927.



LADY DOREEN 4TH.

Second highest milk yield for Dairy Shorthorns at the Royal Show, 1924 and 1925.

including those from her daughters and granddaughters, totalled forty, and for eleven years she regularly produced a calf a year. Six of her daughters were prize-winners at the shows of the R.A.S.E., and all had milk records of considerable merit. Her progeny are well represented in the herd, and the family must be regarded as among the most valuable of present-day strains. Particular mention should be made of Lady Doreen 4th, out of Dorcas and by Lord Leicester 150182, which for two years in succession gave the second highest yield over all dairy shorthorns at the Royal Shows in 1924 and 1925, and whose average is over 1,000 gallons per annum. Doreen 4th is a great cow in every accepted sense of the word, and is breeding remarkably well. The red cow, Lady Doreen, is another daughter of Dorcas with a reputation. This cow is now ten years old, and still possesses a wonderful udder, both in respect of shapeliness and quality, and has an average of over 900 gallons of milk for seven years. She, too, is maintaining the breeding reputation of the family, for she is the dam of Lady Doreen 9th, a great winner in the inspection and milking trial classes at the 1925 shows, including second in the milking trials at the London Dairy Show, after being calved six months; while her record with her first calf was over 1,400 gallons of milk, and she is now giving over 5 gallons of milk daily with her second calf. This family is renowned for the level udders which characterise its representatives, and Lady Doreen 9th is no exception. Her full sister, Lady Doreen 16th, is now being made up for the summer shows, and she, too, has inherited that shapeliness of udder and beauty of conformation which is the ideal of most breeders. Reference to this family would not be complete if the records of another daughter of Dorcas were passed over without mention. This is Lady Doreen 6th, which won first prize at the Leicester Royal Show in the heifer class, and again with the true family characteristics in full evidence. Her milk yields are over 800 gallons with her first calf, 940 gallons with her second, 1,000 gallons last year, and now she is giving over 5 gallons daily. Her rear udder is wonderful, and, taking her general merit, there is little surprise at the fact that three of her sons have been sold to head the herds of leading breeders. There are some families which earn their reputation by the merit of the females which they produce, more so than the males; but there is no indication in this particular instance that excellence in the females has in any way detracted from the utility of the males as herd sires. Several sires of the strain have been used in the herd, with remarkably good results.

There would seem to be little point in any breeder wasting his time with a large variety of strains once he has found the one which produces the results he requires; but Mr. Golden is not only confronted with selecting the families of proved worth, but also finding sires with which to mate them. And it should be noted that an idealistic system prevails at Eaglesfield, in that in the majority of cases the sires are home-bred, but in order to bring in partial out-crosses cows are bought in for the purpose and crossed with home-bred bulls. In this way a close watch is kept on the type of future herd sire. In the precise method followed there is a certain degree of similarity to that practised by Dr. Watney in his Jersey herd. Mr. Golden, as previously mentioned, is a close student of "form." He carefully observes the best of the young cows which are on view from different herds each year. But as young cows they have not proved their breeding and milking capacity, and thus Mr. Golden is content to wait until these same animals have advanced in years before an attempt is made to buy them. If at an advanced age they still carry their breeding bloom and show signs of good constitution, then they are acquired when they come into the market. In this way several good families have been obtained, and, as can be well understood, the initial expenditure has been very reasonable. It does not seem out of place to mention here that a young breeder starting pedigree breeding with a limited capital cannot do better than to lay the foundations of his herd with the matrons which usually comprise the first few lots to be offered at the dispersal and draft sales. The fact that an animal has been retained in a herd for any length of time is a sufficient indication as to the value placed upon her by her owner.

To revert to some of the other families of distinction in this herd, one comes across several instances where the initial foundation animal has been secured at a very reasonable price by reason of age. A case in point is the fourteen years old cow, Betsy Grey 2nd, a Westmorland-bred animal, which, in her prime, commanded a price of 500 guineas. Yet, when the lustre of youth had worn off she was bought into the herd for 70 guineas, and has produced three heifers and two bulls at Eaglesfield. She is still a marvellous cow, and her achievements include the first prize at the Cardiff Royal Show in 1919, when her milk yield in twenty-four hours was 63lb. She was bought by Mr. Golden for the purpose of breeding a bull, for she has milk combined with bone and constitution. Another very pleasing cow is Lady Primrose, out of the celebrated Royal champion Primrose Gift and by Lord Nottingham. The lines of this cow are attractive, and there is



LADY DOREEN 3RD.

Two first prizes, Tring Show, including Shorthorn Society's Prize.



LADY CLOVELLY.

Winner of five silver medals offered by the Shorthorn Society and British Dairy Farmers Association.

a general refinement about her which stamps her as a dairy type to be desired, and well illustrates "clean flesh" in its application to a dairy cow. Her record is 1,100 gallons, and as an individual she is one of the best cows in the herd, though it is exceedingly difficult to single out individuals, by reason of the general high level of merit. Another excellent specimen of the breed is Lady Clovelly, a red cow entered for the Royal Show, which last year had a wonderful round of successes in the showyard as a heifer, including the championship at Tring, although only two years and three months old. There is a concentration of show-ring successes in her ancestry, for she is the fourth generation of first-prize winners in succession. The Clovellys are a very good family throughout, typically dual-purpose, and again specialising in beast, udder and refinement. Darlington Dairy-maid 2nd provides a link with another one-time famous herd, for she was bred by the late Lord Lucas, and sold at his 1915 sale for the sum of 600 guineas, which is some indication of the esteem with which she was held in her prime. She is now thirteen years old, and still a good cow, and breeding well. Then there is the roan, Lady Maisie, third in the milking trials at the London Dairy

Show last year, and with her third calf is giving over 5 gallons of milk daily. Lady Mary 7th, the four year old cow, is also entered for the Royal. As a heifer she was almost unbeaten last year, and, with fortune, this animal has a great future.

In going through a breeding herd of this kind one, naturally, studies very closely those animals which have distinguished themselves in the show ring and at the pail, and it says much for the herd that at the Oxfordshire, Royal Counties, Three Counties and Leicestershire shows this year, nine first, eight second prizes and three silver medals have been gained. But, unless these achievements are allied to good breeding results, there can be no fulfilment of the ideal of constructive breeding. One often comes across instances where the materials for successful breeding are all that one could desire, and yet the results are negative. In seeking for the reason one has to acknowledge that the sires employed are often the root of much evil. In the course of a further article the Eaglesfield breeding methods and sires will be discussed in relation to this question, which is, perhaps, the most intricate part of dairy shorthorn breeding to-day.

H. G. ROBINSON.

## MY SUNDAY AT HOME

BY BERNARD DARWIN.

I HAVE unblushingly appropriated the title of one of Mr. Kipling's most entertaining stories, for the simple, but insufficient, reason that I wanted it. It was a Sunday on which there was positively nothing for it but to stay at home. A wet, white cloud enveloped everything, the trees dripped dismally, all golf courses would have been almost equally unpleasant. But I had a lovely fire and some ideal literature to read in front of it. A kind friend had just sent me from his surplus stock the first seven *Golfing Annuals*, beginning with the solitary red volume of 1887-88 and proceeding with green ones, getting each year a little fatter until that of 1893-94 was really quite plump.

So I sat myself down and browsed contentedly. The books did not come fresh to me, for I remember that my father used to get the new volume in most years, and so we had them at home; but somehow they had got lost and I had not read them for years. It was delicious to read them again and to contemplate the extraordinary fact that one had been oneself not only alive but actually playing golf at a time when golf was, by comparison, so much smaller and more primitive a thing (perhaps also so much pleasanter), and such singular old gentlemen wrote such singular stuff about it. I cannot help thinking that the editor, when he first began, called these old gentlemen to his aid because he could not otherwise fill his book, and was afterwards afraid of hurting their feelings by getting rid of them. And so, year after year, Dr. — and Mr. —, LL.D., reappeared, both in prose and in verse usually of an elaborately Scottish character, joking with a laborious facetiousness that may have been equalled but can never have been excelled. Here is the first verse of one poem, no better and no worse than the rest:

Golf Links are rife in bunkers,  
And whins hem in the golfer's path,  
Bringing grief to buoyant oulkers  
And rousing oft their elders' wrath.

When I was a "buoyant youngster" myself I recollect thinking them rather tedious, nor am I confident I erred; but now I re-read them not without a certain futile and sentimental pleasure.

By no means all the literature, however, was of this unpractical description. Some of it was extremely businesslike. There was, for example, a spirited passage at arms about the rules of golf between Sir Walter Simpson on one side and that sturdy fighter, Dr. Laidlaw Purves, on the other. There was an interminable and sometimes bellicose correspondence on the same subject, reprinted, I think, from the columns of the *Field*. An iconoclastic gentleman in the south had presumed to make a code of rules, as opposed to that of St. Andrews, and the Scotsmen belaboured him heavily. Sometimes they became rather personal. The iconoclast wrote that once he had been playing one of his chief belabourers at Hoylake and had been dormy one; he had hit "a magnificent drive" to the last hole, only to have it recalled because he had teed outside the marks; he further suggested that his adversary had observed the fact, but had carefully avoided mentioning it till after the shot. To this the opponent replied (1) that it was a pity to import personalities, (2) that he had no recollection of the incident, (3) that if it had occurred, it had, in effect, served the iconoclast jolly well right.

Then, in another volume—and that was a delightful find indeed—I hit on Mr. Horace Hutchinson's account of his

mythical match over ten English greens with his friend, James Macpherson, and read yet once again about the "dead and derelict dog" on the Bembridge beach, and all the rest of that famous match which ended in all square through a short putt missed at the last hole at Alnmouth.

This was, indeed, good fun, much better than the quarrelling about the rules which, after a while, made my head ache, as modern arguments on the same subject do to-day; but it did not give me anything to write about, although, like those old gentlemen before mentioned, I seem to be writing quite comfortably about nothing in particular. Presently, however, I did discover a little something that was new to me and will be so, I hope, to most other people. It was in an article written in 1889 by the late Mr. H. S. C. Everard, called "Hints on Handicapping." After talking of those "meteoric" players who one day do nothing but eights and on another play brilliantly so as to be the despair of the handicappers, he suggested a plan which had never been tried, "at least of late years," so far as he knew. "A number is fixed upon, such as 85 or whatever is considered a scratch score for the green; if a player from scratch does actually hole the round in 85, he, *ipso facto*, cannot be beaten, while if he holes the round in less he is entitled to benefit by his extra good score. Thus, suppose one of our meteoric friends, in receipt of fifteen strokes, had for this occasion only gone round in 91, his net score would then be 76, but in virtue of the scratch man's invincibility, if he did what he was called upon to do, the two scores would tie, and their compilers could proceed to divide or wrangle at their own sweet will." This was a decidedly amusing suggestion, and came as near to the agreeable game of "heads I win and tails you lose" as any scratch man could hope for. Perhaps on that account the popular voice was against it. At any rate, I never heard of it being adopted. Incidentally, the notion of a "scratch score" for the course, though probably an old one, is not, so far as I know, mentioned in earlier literature. It was, I believe, two years later, in 1891, that Mr. Hugh Rotherham brought the idea of a "ground score" from Coventry to Yarmouth, where it got the name of "Bogey," and Bogey was promoted to military rank when he was transplanted from Yarmouth to the United Services Club at Haslar. Mr. Everard's scratch score, however, was only a total score, and was not to be played against, as Bogey is, by match play.

There was another article which had a peculiar interest for me and made me feel a little uncomfortable. It was called "On the reporting of golf matches," and was by Mr. Horace Hutchinson. The lash that he then wielded can still make our backs smart to-day. "For the most part," he wrote, "golf reports consist of a mere cataloguing of the numbers taken to each hole, perhaps supplemented by some meagre details as 'Here So-and-so showed some indifferent putting.'" By way of contrast and as an example to reporters, he gave this excellent oral account of a match by an eye-witness: "Oh, they went along pretty level till the long hole coming home, and then A topped his ball into Hell bunker and that put B's tail up, and A never had another chance." Finally, he was unkind enough to say that "many of the golf reports might have been written equally well by men who had not been out with the match at all." Well, I thought to myself, as I gave the fire a poke and snuggled down in my chair—well, you know, if you come to that, some of them are.



# CHRISTMAS IN TIROL

BY LOUIS GOLDING.



"THE BELLS ARE RINGING IN THE STEEPLE."

I SHOULD imagine that the country life of no people in Europe is so bound up with a timeless folk-lore, or that it, anywhere else, is so astonishing an amalgam of an obscure and fierce paganism with a sweet, an almost lambent, Christianity. When the villagers and townsmen of the broad Inn Valley climb to its topmost peaks upon Midsummer Eve and light beacons there which illumine a whole province, they do no more than re-enkindle the lights of Odin and Thor which the blonde men brought in from the vast German swamps. When, in those mysteriously named villages nearer the Italian frontiers, the blindfolded peasants sacrifice a bound stag, they revive the dark practices of the Etruscans who once occupied

this region, and left no more than an occasional word to be crooned by some old beldame, or a bronze ring, a clay vase to be turned up by some lusty Tirolese ploughman.

The peasant's calendar in the remoter valleys of Tirol is full of occult observances which can be related only to the unextinguished pagan cults; and these persist, indeed, to the very threshold of the supreme Christian festival. For even upon Christmas Eve, in certain villages, a chosen member of each peasant's household proceeds to "feed the four elements," as they term it. He throws a handful of flour into the air, hides some foodstuff in the hard earth, and feeds with corn or maize the fire in the kitchen and the well by the door. So that now,



AN ALPINE CHALET.



PICTURESQUE TIROLERS.

all the four elements being appeased, they will deal kindly with cattle and grain and roots during the perilous progress of the year.

But upon Christmas Day the spirit of their folk-lore is subdued to the nature and quality of the event it celebrates. There is a tenderness and a holy awe about their beliefs and practices. Between the hours of eleven and twelve, moreover, the cattle in the cattle-sheds go down upon their knees and utter words like human words, in memory of the privilege once conferred on them. And the story is frequently told of a village cynic who entered a byre to mock at these animal ventriloquisms. But the beasts said no more than that there should be sawing of wood the next day and hammering of nails; and, surely enough, the cynic was borne away from his home next day in a box of sawn wood.

He that has not only a pious heart but a sharp eye might find the holy root, the *Springwurz*, thrust its way through the snow at the moment of the twelfth tolling of the bell at midnight, and no lock or bolt can resist the *Springwurz*, the "Open Sesame" of the remote Tirolese steadings.

But it is the legend of the spoons that the stranger finds most winning. For when the last dumpling has been devoured, that notable dish called *Knödel*, and there is no wine left at the bottom of the litre flasks, and every candle upon the fir tree has long been extinguished—when, in fact, the bell begins to toll across the frosty air and the faithful must begin to think of lighting the pine torches and setting out for the midnight mass—then the peasant family takes its place before a picture

of the Holy Family. The mother sets a basin of milk on the ledge before it, and oldest and youngest alike proceed to engirdle the basin each with his spoon. When the family returns from the mass, its impatience grows more desperate the nearer it reaches home; because whosoever finds his spoon in another place shall be certain of much luck all next year, the Mother of Christ having deigned to feed her child with it. And I must not forbear to mention that frequently young Peppi or the bright-eyed Mariandl will find his or her spoon standing full in the sanctified basin—though I will not proceed to speculate upon what agency has lifted it there.

Yet it is a curious fact that in the most sequestered villages of what might be termed Etruscan Tirol there are certain old men and women of incalculable age who recall a time when hardly a house in their village knew the meaning of the Christmas tree. Only very slowly did the dwellers under those dark forests submit to the fantasy from the blonder Northmen, for their blood had secret affinities rather with the cypress and the south than with the north and the fir tree. In their earliest memories the feast-making was not on the day of the Nativity, but the day of St. Nicholas, earlier in December; and as they hobbled to the midnight mass, they cannot avoid a sniff of fear and suspicion to see a last candle guttering upon some peasant's late-lit Christmas tree. They recall that the house of Gebhardt, the butcher, or Gurschner, the miller, was burned down six years ago, despite the protective image of St. Florian painted above the doorway with his cruse of water; they cannot help attaching a special significance to the fact that a candle fallen from the tree was



A GROUP OF MAIDENS FROM THE ZILLERTAL.



responsible for the calamity. But the midnight mass, whither old and young alike are proceeding, is, for them all, the holiest of the year, and doubly holy. And yet, even at the most sacred moments, little Peppi and his sister Mariandl cannot prevent their wits wandering to the basin of milk and the engirdling spoons.

"My spoon!" whispers Peppi. "She will use my spoon!"

"She won't, horse-head!" whispers Mariandl. "Who lost his new rosary last week? My spoon! She will use my spoon!"

But, indeed, if I were to present the picture of a Tirolese Christmas without bowing my head to the Christ-Kindl upon the Christmas tree, I should be presenting Hamlet without a Prince of Denmark, or omitting Christian's adventures from a Pilgrim's Progress. Let me, then, betake myself to the roof-tree of my sturdy friend, Ludl Franz, a peasant of those regions, from whom I have learned most of the little lore I present here. For every Christmas, when his good wife lights the candles all the children gather round the fir tree to see what little parcel, marked with their name, is hanging among the branches. I also stretch forth a hand in fancy (as I did in fact once) to take down my gift, till of a sudden the hoot of a steamer on the river, the screech of a train in a siding dispels the vision and establishes again the separating seas.

Now Ludl Franz lives in the remote village of Lingenfeld in the Oetzthal, a valley heavy with aboriginal pine woods, tumultuous with glacier streams. But at this moment a hush lies upon stream and pine wood equally, as if some Midas of the frost had arrested them with his breath and converted them into a white substance more exquisite and more frail than gold. Flowers of frost make each window opaque, and enormous stalactites hang from the leaves in the wintry air.

Over the valley now the keen stars are shining. Within doors a hundred smaller stars are flickering on the finery branches of the fir tree, and the children are gathered round them, doing reverence to the little waxen image of the Christ-Child high on the topmost twig. All Ludl Franz's family are gathered there—his wife, and Mariandl, his daughter, and Toni, his bright-haired son, and the other children, with old Franz himself, that primitive sculpture of a man, towering above them all, with his huge limbs and his gentle eyes.

Mother and daughter have worked hard all day to produce this glittering pageantry of streamers and tinsel thread, glass balls and hangings sweets and bound gifts, one for them all, with a name on each. They are standing against the great clay oven with green tiles, stuffed with logs, beholding their handiwork. The eldest boy, Willi, is the only one who has been in the secret with them, for he has had the job of preparing the crib, which you see in the corner under the crucifix. It consists of hundreds of small carved figures—carved out of pear or cherry wood by the hands of Franz youths who are dead a hundred years—and dressed in silk and tinsels by Franz maidens who were dust long ago. Here are they all, peasants and shepherds, saints and Romans; but the Magi are the newest and grandest of all, carved by Willi and clothed



IN FULL REGALIA.

by Mariandl during these long winter evenings.

And now the girl comes forward and holds out her hands and utters invocation to the Christ-Child. That concluded, all voices join in the carol, "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" ("Still Night, Holy Night"), and the whole house rocks to the clamour. Now the joyous skirmish for the presents follows, for Mariandl a length of brocade to make herself a new apron for feast days, for Willi a pair of heavy mountain boots, for Toni a new pair of leather shorts, for Peppi a thick homespun shirt, for you the model of a castle in Spain, for me an apple out of the Hesperides. There is no need for me to give an account of the great banquet that follows, for, though the food may not be the same, the spirit in which it is so colossally devoured is the same in all lands. I will tell no tale of vast icebergs of bacon floating submerged in seas of butter; nor of the enormous dumplings called *Knödel*, larger than your head; nor of deep stoups of wine, nor of the potent liquor brewed out of the roots of gentian. But I must not allow little bright-haired Hugo to slip entirely unobserved out of the room. He creeps on tip-toe out of the house and into the star-powdered night. Now he slips the bar from the door of the cow-shed and enters, half afraid, as if he might find the cattle upon their knees and hear them talking.

Then he goes boldly forward to his favourite, Schwalbl, the little bull calf stalled in his own private stall. Schwalbl is awakened out of his meadowy dreams and, seeing Toni's hair shine faintly in the darkness, begins to crunch and nibble it, imagining it is ripe corn. But Toni has a more toothsome morsel for him. He holds out his tiny fist laden with coarse salt, which, to small bull calves, is more blissful than poppy or mandragors or all the drowsy syrups of the East. So Schwalbl has had his Christmas present too, and Toni creeps back again into the festivity and devours more dumplings and more dumplings, till he seems to be made of dumpling all the way up to his throat, and cannot find a place for another one—at least, for more than half of one. The bells are ringing in the steeple clear across the frosty air.

And now at length the grand night is over. It is time to awaken those children who have dozed off after the banquet. The time has come for the midnight mass. Come forth, come forth, down from the hilltops and up from the valleys! This is the hour of mystery, the old wives say. At the moment of the consecration all the wells flood with wine; and not only the living are celebrants at this ceremony, they whisper: the dead come forth out of their dwelling-places and gather about the lit windows of the church. Their phantom shoulders and the living shoulders jostle in the sanctuary. Come forth! come forth! toll the bells. They do not summon in vain. All over the valley behold them issuing from their houses with bright pine torches in their hands. Steadily, like moving constellations, they make their way through snow-hung woods and down hushed hillsides. You might think the stars themselves had fallen from Heaven because Heaven is so lonely to-night and earth is so full of loveliness, so full of sanctity.



# THE CRAFTSMANSHIP OF ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR

## THE CHOIR STALLS

By the Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor.

*The stalls were carved between 1476 and 1484, by men whose names have been discovered. In the XVIII century Emlyn extended and restored them.*

THE stalls of St. George's Chapel are interesting from many points of view, apart from their great beauty. They represent the expiring effort of pure Gothic before the Renaissance had put its stamp too strongly upon art and architecture. A comparison with those of King's College Chapel will at once show the difference that was to come within the next century. But they are, further, I believe, the only set of stalls in England of whose making there is a detailed account. We know the dates, we know the names of the carvers who made them, and we know, also, approximately

their cost. I say approximately because the accounts of each year often include other woodwork, and it is difficult to unravel the items. Besides, we have not the account of the first year's work. Somewhere about £50 a year was spent on them between 1476 and 1484. This is a very rough estimate, but it gives something suggestive of the total expenditure upon them.

The names of the carvers were Robert Ellis, John Filles, Dirike Vangrove and Giles Vancastel. These last two were, apparently, of a higher class of artists, who carved the figures. There was also William Berkeley, probably the same as William,

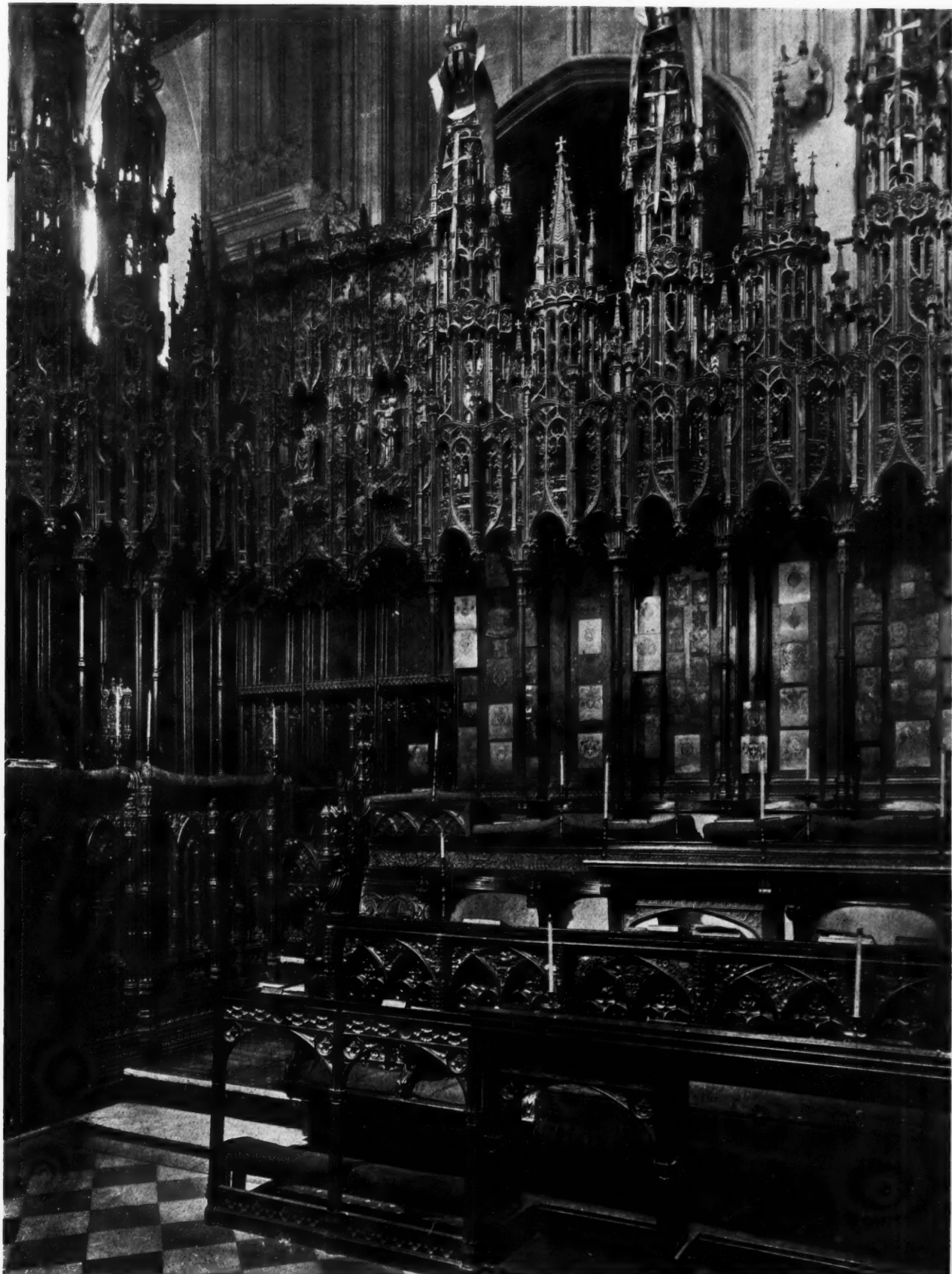


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1.—THE KING'S STALL.

"COUNTRY LIFE."





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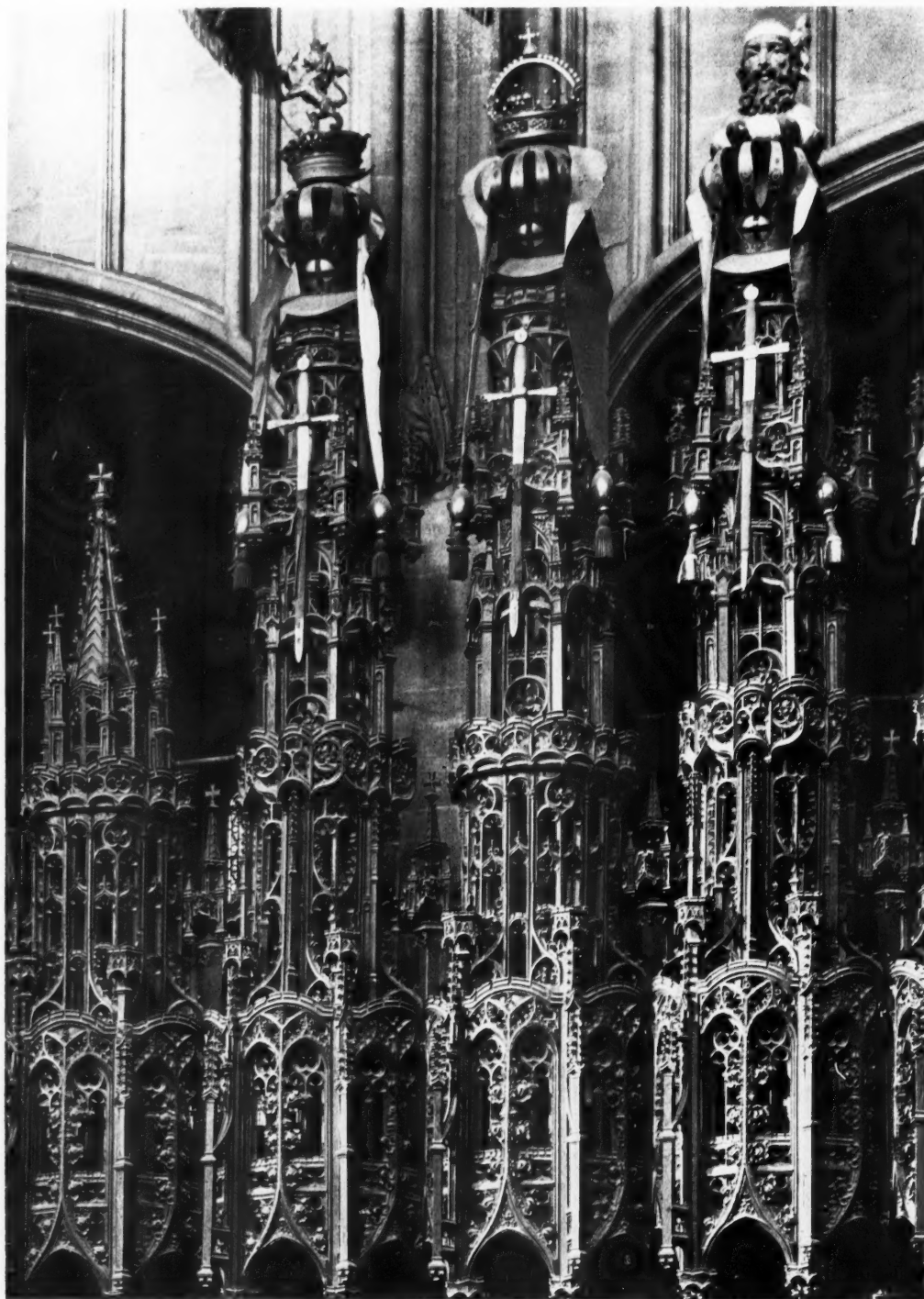
2.—THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF THE CHOIR.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

Showing stall canopies restored to their original arrangement of high ones for the knights alternating with low ones for canons.

the carver for whom a gown was ordered. During the work William Ipswich, who worked under William Berkeley, somehow found himself imprisoned in the town of Windsor—for what offence we do not know. Towards the end of the work Hugh Gregory and William Crue were being employed. The estimates of accounts were worked out in a businesslike way, though the terms used make it a little difficult to tell always what the particular work was. But, evidently, they worked steadily on, doing a section at a time during the eight years.

The original plan gave fifty stalls, four return stalls on each side of the entrance and twenty-one stalls along the north and south sides of the choir. The return stalls were for the Knights of the Royal Family, that of the King and the Prince of Wales, placed next to the doorway on the south and north sides, being broader than the rest. The King's stall has always been used by the Dean when the King is not present. The twenty-one stalls on each side were arranged alternately for the Knights and Canons, the Knights having a high canopy with their crest and banner, and the Canons a low canopy, such as is to be



3.—THE CANOPIES OF THREE 'KNIGHTS' STALLS, THE CENTRE ONE BY EMLYN (EIGHTEENTH CENTURY).

Their work remains to this day, but has been modified by the work of a great craftsman three hundred years later. Emlyn, who rose from a wood-carver to an architect, was, in my belief, the man in the eighteenth century who best grasped the spirit of Gothic work. His designs are not perfect, but his carving is nearer to the true work of the earlier days than that of any other man of that time; and even his designs are sometimes wonderfully good, as, for instance, that of the organ screen, which—though, unfortunately, made of Coade cement—is really a wonderfully successful reproduction of Perpendicular work, while as a restorer and copyist he attained a high level of perfection.

seen in our second illustration, where the old plan has been restored. Below the seats of the Knights was another row of stalls, and in front of it a desk with an elaborately carved front and a bench. When Emlyn was called in these stalls had suffered considerable dilapidation from the devastation of the chapel during the Cromwellian period. But he was called in not only to repair. His task was to increase the number of stalls and to make room for a large number of foreign Honorary Knights. To do this he added two stalls at the east end on both sides, and the Canons were deprived of their stalls and the whole row given the high canopies with the crests and banners (Fig. 3), producing a somewhat crowded effect, which we have





4.—AN EXTRA SEAT AT THE WEST END OF THE NORTH STALLS.



5.—TWO ADDITIONAL STALLS BY EMLYN, EAST END OF NORTH SIDE.

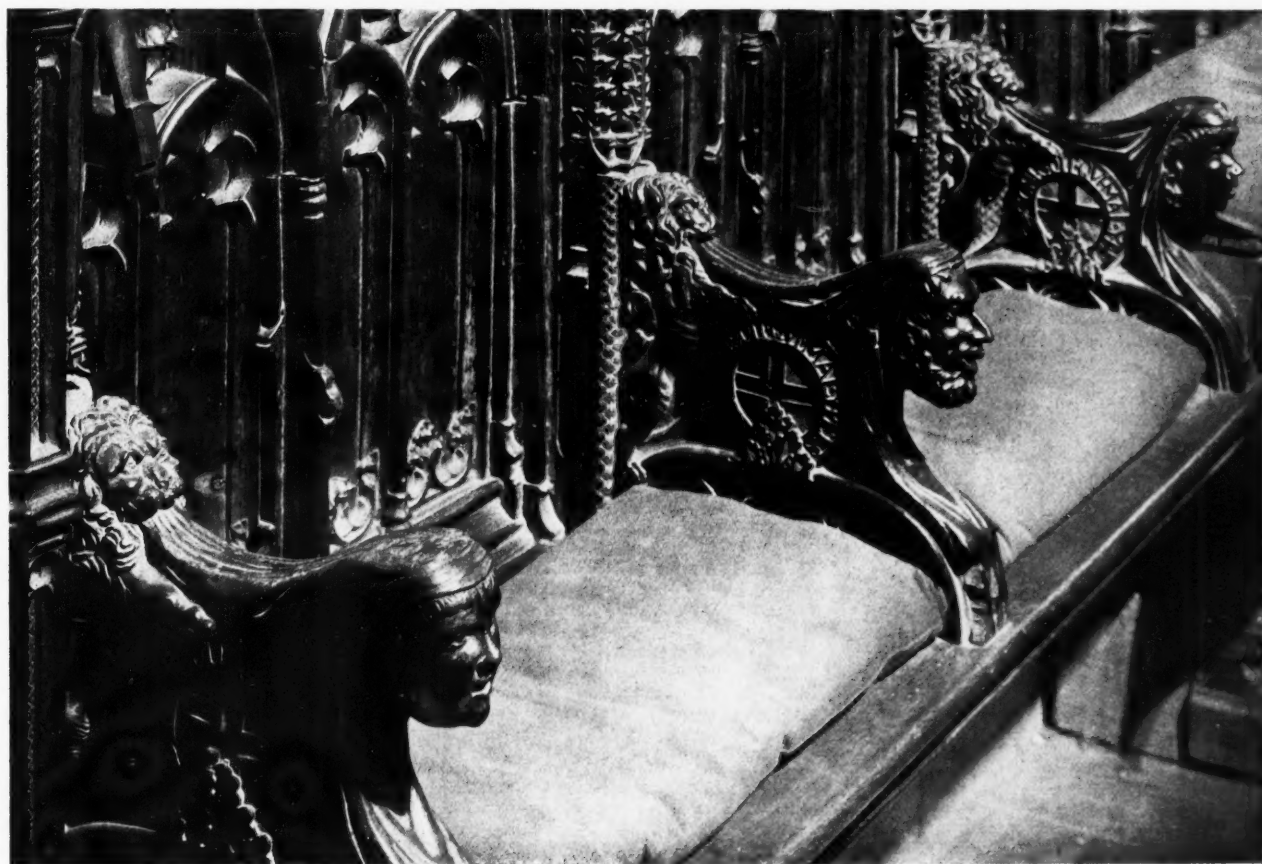
now, in part, remedied, for, since there is a large reduction in the number of foreign Knights, we have been able, at the west end, to restore the original alternate arrangement (Fig. 2); but having half of this arrangement and half of the other is not entirely satisfactory.

Emlyn's new stalls are extraordinarily faithful copies of the old ones, but he was faced with certain difficulties. In front of the stalls of the Knights there is a singularly beautiful line of Gothic lettering (Fig. 5). The words are those of the 20th Psalm. What was he to do at the end of this—or, rather, at the two ends—for there was a readjustment of seats at the other end which obliged lengthening? Also, what was he to do with the two additional panels on the front, which, in the old stalls, are full of carving, partly on religious and partly legendary subjects? With both these difficulties he dealt with great skill. He did not attempt to conceal the fact that he was doing new work. At the west end of the inscription he put some admirable scrollwork, which harmonises extremely well, though it is obviously not mediæval work (Fig. 4). At the other end he put, on one side, "God Save the King," and, on the other, "God Save the Prince." That was his weakest work, for he lost the charm of the lettering. But it harmonises quite happily.

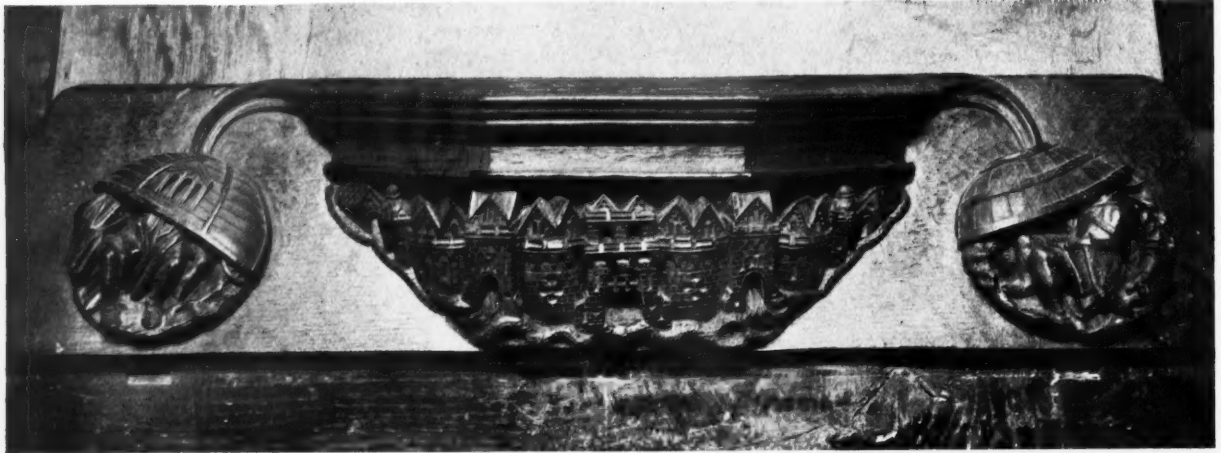
On the front of the two stalls on each side—while the carving, on general inspection, looks just like the rest of the front—one finds on examination that, instead of introducing further religious subjects, he put incidents in George III's life—the attempted murder by Margaret Nicholson, and other such things—so that their modern character is clearly preserved, while the general effect is quite complete (Fig. 5). He, further, put doors on all the entrances to the stalls, following the eighteenth century desire for privacy, and these doors are fine in their carving and quite harmonious in their general effect.

Along the old front, in order to make seats for the Military Knights, he put arms to the benches, which will be seen in the sixth illustration.

On the old work, apart from the front, of which I have spoken, there is a great deal of elaborate carving. On the buttresses which divide the panels in a great many of the stalls there are delightful little half figures standing in something almost like pulpits, and the poppy heads are of great elaboration and beauty. On each of these are two pictures, back to back, framed in turreted canopies, as can well be seen in the picture of the King's stall (Fig. 1). The pictures represent partly religious subjects, partly the story of St. George, and



6.—BENCHES BELOW THE STALLS WITH ARMS ADDED BY EMLYN IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.



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7.—CARNARVON CASTLE. PRINCE OF WALES'S STALL.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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8.—THE BRIDGE OF PICQUIGNY. THE KING'S STALL.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

9.—A WRYTHEN KNOT.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

10.—VENERY.

"COUNTRY LIFE."





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11.—THE SUN OF YORK.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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12.—TAVERN ALTERCATION.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



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13.—ST. GEORGE, AND THE BADGE OF BISHOP BEAUCHAMP.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright

14.—AN UNSUCCESSFUL DRAGON, AND A WILD MAN.

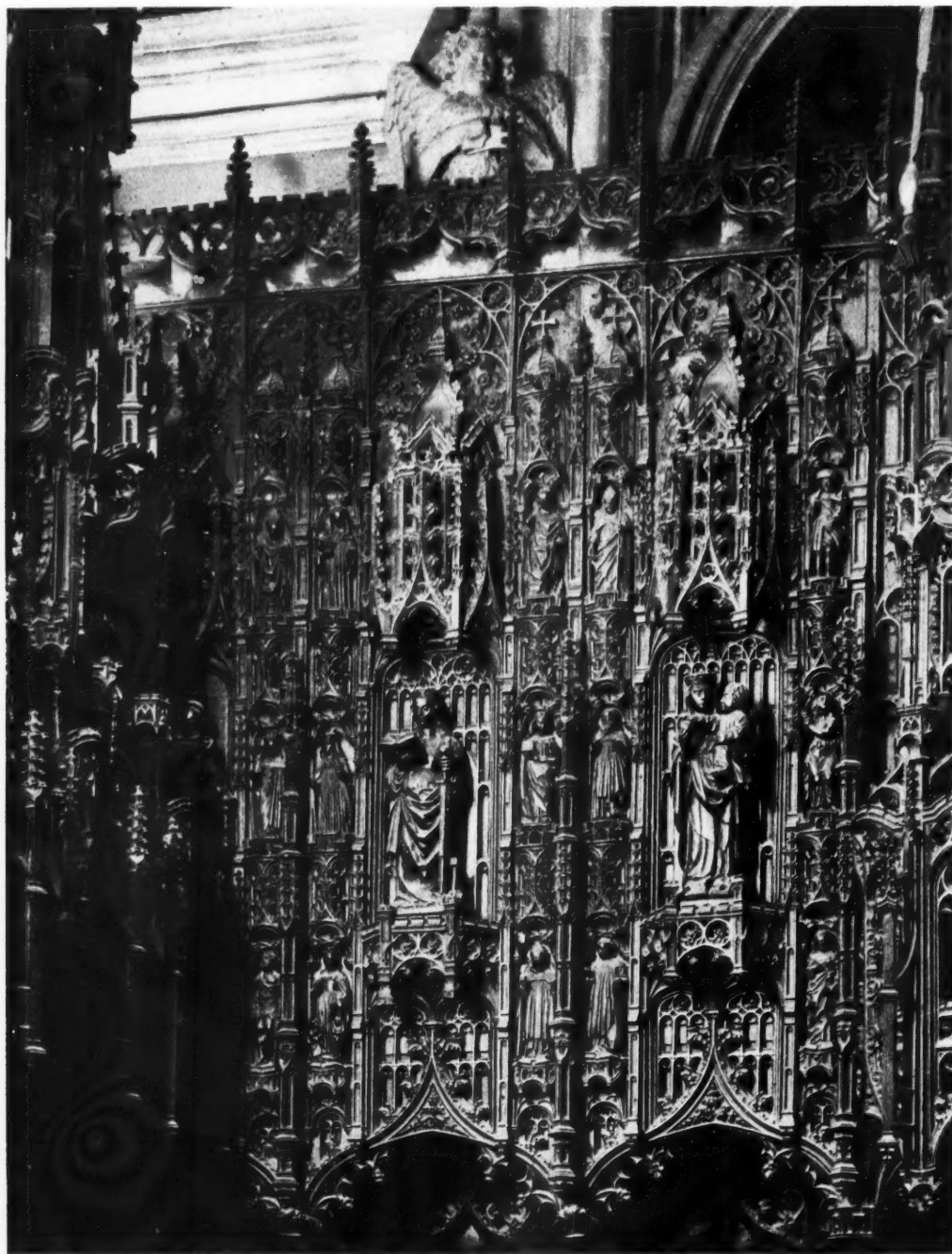
"COUNTRY LIFE."

partly historical subjects. All this carving had been a good deal injured in Cromwellian times, and Emlyn restored it with exquisite skill, replacing the parts which had been destroyed, so that now it looks as if it had never received an injury at all. It is very interesting to study his work. It has enough individuality to distinguish it, and yet it preserves to an extraordinary degree the character of the old work.

Emlyn further enriched the King's stall by a canopy, seen in the illustration, which comes under the old canopy. It is not very correct as Gothic, but is very effective, and harmonises well with the rest of the carving.

panels joining the stalls on the north and south sides with the return stalls. These have, unfortunately, been curtailed, for when the new organ screen was made, as they had no wish to make it protrude farther into the nave, and yet wanted greater width, they brought it forward into the choir, destroying one row of small niches and saints in these panels and half concealing one of the large niches with the larger saints. The bulk of it, however, remains on both sides, and its beauty will be seen from Fig. 15.

The miserere records of the stalls have under them baberies of very great interest and beauty. They are mostly of incidents of fifteenth century life or tradition, or else they are heraldic



Copyright.

15.—PANELLING AT THE WEST END OF THE NORTH STALLS.

"C.L."

The completest of Emlyn's designs, as far as woodwork is concerned, was the organ case. It is quite clearly a failure as an example of Gothic work, but it is a beautiful thing in itself, and the detail is admirably carved. Unfortunately, it will have to be modified. Till now, the various changes of the organ have been effected by very much overcrowding the interior and by certain excrescences, which were ugly. But now that it has to be entirely rebuilt, it would be absurd to rebuild it in this way, and, consequently, the design of the case will have to be remodelled. But I think it can be done without losing any of Emlyn's work or, indeed, any of the spirit of his design, and it will be possible to show the whole length of the roof in a way which the old arrangement obscured. Of the old work, the most remarkable parts are the two

But there are two of special interest, that in the King's stall representing the meeting between Edward IV and the King of France on the bridge at Picquigny in 1475 (Fig. 8); and that of the Prince of Wales's stall (Fig. 7) giving a picture of an imposing castle, which is supposed to be an imaginative representation of Carnarvon, the birthplace of the first Prince of Wales. Another interesting one of St. George with the mitre and badge of Bishop Beauchamp is shown in Fig. 13. Every detail of the carving is worth studying. The meaning of it all has not yet been deciphered, but a great deal is quite clear, and it gives a wonderful picture of the thought of the age, and the subjects introduced by Emlyn in his restorations show that he grasped the spirit of that work with remarkable clearness.



# AT THE THEATRE

## A DEFENCE OF PANTOMIME.

**M**R. GEORGE ROBEY has informed the world that pantomime is dying. This statement induces in me the same kind of melancholy which I should suffer on hearing a great admiral at the height of his powers declare that there were to be no more battles at sea. Reflecting thereon, I bethought me of a delightful Chinese poem (by an American), entitled: "The Old Mandarin on His Travels." This poem is as follows:

When I visited America  
I saw two things that struck me as extraordinary:  
People packed in the subway  
Rocking uneasily on their hams  
Endlessly studying the newspapers;  
And people packed in the movies  
Endlessly staring at the films.  
I said to myself  
If the American people ever develop Minds  
There are two great industries  
That will crash.

So I set about to ask myself whether it is because the English people has developed Mind that the great industry of the Christmas pantomime has crashed. And I decided that Mr. Robey—whose eyebrows since I could first lisp have been a perennial joy—was talking through his adorable hat. As I write, his effigy, in the form of a toby jug, gazes at me from the mantelpiece. It is a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. But that does not prevent Sir Toby from being wrong in this matter. Does he think, because he is for the virtuous turn in revue, that there shall be no more of pantomime's hot codlins? The decay of pantomime, like the decay of the drama, has been always with us. Henry Morley, writing, in 1855, of an amateur pantomime at the Olympic Theatre, "which was witnessed by an audience including no small part of all the aristocracies we boast about in England," declared that the performance carried his thoughts back to the days of Grimaldi, and showed "how dead the art as an art is now." Frankly, I cannot see that an art which was dead in 1855 can be dying in 1927; on the contrary, it seems to me that it has taken an unconscionable time in recuperating. Probably all that Professor Morley meant was that he was getting older, and one may think that he was not getting older in the right way. It is even possible that in his heart of hearts Morley was not a lover of this form of entertainment. We find him complaining of a vast poster, according to which, "two hundred young women, none under the height of six feet two, for the pantomime at Covent Garden," were required to present themselves to the management of that theatre. The result was "four chambermaids, six feet two in their clogs, who perform some exceedingly stupid business with warming-pans." The gist of the Professor's complaint was that the mountain of Expectancy gave forth no more than a quartet of comparative mice. Proclaimed dioramas turned out to be "two small and bad transparencies," and the great tournament after Holbein had for all result "a lump or two of armour upon hobby-horses." Well, we may ask what more the Professor desired. Did he really expect the Covent Garden cock-pit to hold the vasty lists of Holbein, and his imagination working, could he not think, when the lumps of armour spurred and smote their hobby-horses, that he saw them "printing their proud hoofs i' the receiving earth?" Yet there are times when this dramatic critic of seventy years ago almost makes good his claim to be considered a pantomime "fan." One could not wish him to write more approvingly than: "The best transformation, and that really a very striking one, was the fall of the scene representing the wizard's laboratory on the heads of the actors, as if by a mishap, resulting in a complete change of the stage, and the spreading out of a cornfield before the palace of Balmoral." This is as good as good can be and is in the very spirit of the excellent art. Alas, that it should be followed by a complaint upon the bad taste of the curtain, "which is not in the least intended for the pleasure of the public eye, but is a mass of advertisements collected from Moses and Son and other well known advertisers. This, in a place meant for refreshment and amusement, pains the eye with a reproduction of the nuisance of a hoarding, or of a ticket-bedaubed second-class carriage on the railway!"

What nonsense is there here! The one thing which remains to me as the most certain among all the raptures of my early pantomimes was the gaudy advertisement curtain. Like the little stars into which Juliet desired her Romeo to be divided, it was always cut out in little squares, which made Christmas Eve a thing to itself and turned the theatre of the rest of the year into nothing at all. When one saw this curtain

one knew that one was, in very sooth, in for the veritable joys of pantomime, that there could be no fobbing one off with the instructive delights, say, of "The Merchant of Venice," or of some sermon in the Forest of Arden, that presently the little squares would roll themselves up and reveal a world more magical, and houris more enchanting, than anything we had spelled out in "The Arabian Nights." Irresistible one remembers that loveliness to have been, carrying banners and advancing wave by wave, twenty abreast and of such uniform charm that to single out one for favour was to commit nineteen separate, unthinkable treacheries. The swell of ocean, or opening chorus having subsided, there would appear the middlingly funny fellows. Next Dandini and his encumbrance, or second boy and girl meet for mediocre ardours. Now the Great Panjandrum of metropolitan humour would make his raucous burst upon the senses. And finally, amazingly simple yet extravagantly coy, rustic yet with the jimp and modish possibility, would appear Cinders or Red Riding Hood or Alice, the daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren. Last, way would be made, and plenty of it, for something columnar and pedestalled, earth-bestrident, dwarfing South Kensington's David, yet with the prettiest swagger—the Prince.

There are those who, at Christmastime, cannot decide between plum pudding and mince pie, and in the matter of pantomime enchantresses will confess to much debating of allegiance. Shall it be the principal boy, over-caparisoned and over-plumed, down the pink champaign of whose chops—to quote a neo-Georgian poet—the ostrich-feather, monstrous, droops? Shall it be the fair, the not too refrigerative, the inexpressive He, born to orris-root and patches, ruffling it with inimitable grace, driving four-in-hands down marble staircases, and slapping with jewelled hand a jewel of a thigh? Or shall it be the principal girl, that still unravished bride of all that's dashing, yet ever handy with the pertness of Cockaigne? Of these little ladies the austere critic of modern times has said: "What makes a 'principal' girl a good one, or what a bad one, in the judgment of special connoisseurs of pantomime, is a mystery hidden from mere common playgoers. When and where principal girls should be pert and when and where refrain from pertness; how close they should come to what the un-instructed might call minxes and yet how they should differentiate themselves from minxes in the eyes of the experts; to how many affairs of the heart they should make lyric reference while adhering like gum, in their prose passages, to their respective Sinbads, Princes Charming and Little Boys Blue—all these are deep and hidden things, for ignorance of which, let us trust, we shall not be rebuked, as à-Kempis says, at the day of judgment." How happy, as a child, could I have been with either principal boy or girl for sweetheart! And as childhood is a world far removed from the diocese of the conscience, a world in which one may bigamously love at one pantomime and commit the same folly at another over the way, I will confess that the fourteen weeks which were the normal span of pantomime in those far-off days were spent in alternations between unbelievable bliss and incredible renunciation. Now, since I am not one of those who believe that human nature, either grown-up or childish, can be altered in the space of one generation, I must believe that as I laughed and loved an indiscreet number of years ago so a modern child still wants to laugh and love. I maintain that pantomime is not only undying, but cannot contain within it even the seeds of death. Lastly, I hold that Mr. George Robey has been blaspheming his own art, and that, like Mr. Kipling's decorator and colourman in words, he will be sorry for it in the morning.

GEORGE WARRINGTON.

## THE PLAYBILL.

### New Arrivals.

THE WAY OF THE WORLD.—Wyndham's.

"Even so, sir: 'tis the way of the world, sir,—of the widows of the world."—MIRABELL.

THE WRECKER.—New.

"This exceeds all precedent."—LADY WISHFORT.

CLOWNS IN CLOVER.—Adelphi.

"This is precious fooling."—MRS. MARWOOD.

GOOD MORNING, BILL!—Duke of York's.

"A pretty deal of an odd sort of a small wit."—WITWOOD.

GETTING MARRIED.—Little.

"Secrets of matrimony and policy as they are at present practised in the northern hemisphere."—FAINALL.

**Tried Favourites.**MR. PROHACK.—*Court*.

"Oh, he has witchcraft in his eyes and tongue!"—LADY WISHFORT.

MARIGOLD.—*Kingsway*.

"A little disdain is not amiss, a little scorn is alluring."—LADY WISHFORT.

DRACULA.—*Garrick*.

"This is most inhumanly savage."—LADY WISHFORT.

THE HIGH ROAD.—*Shaftesbury*.

"Let us be very strange and well-bred."—MILLAMANT.

DR. SYN.—*Strand*.

"Go, you are an insignificant thing!"—FAINALL.

THE GIRL FRIEND.—*Palace*.

"Tis a thing very usual with young gentlemen."—MRS. MARWOOD.

**STOKE EDITH**

THIS is the most deplorable loss by fire that has taken place during the last few years, when so many great houses have been destroyed. The painted hall and painted staircase were the masterpieces of Sir James Thornhill, an artist whose greatness is now beginning to be fully recognised. Externally, too, Stoke Edith was one of the finest buildings of the age of Wren. Built by Speaker Foley and his son Thomas in *circa* 1700, from the latter's own designs, though probably with advice from Wren, the house was architecture of a very high order, having no trace of amateurism in its dignified proportions and fine workmanship. Standing on a steep slope facing north, the main front was flanked by far-projecting wings at a lower level, and possessed unusual grace and nobility. A double flight of semicircular steps led up to the centre window of the painted hall on the first floor (which was the ground floor on the other front), forming a *porte cochère* beneath to the front door. The walls were of small scarlet

bricks of a most mellow colour that harmonised exquisitely with the grey-pink limestone facings. A deep and richly carved cornice surmounted the walls, and brick and stone chimney-stacks of fine design dominated the whole. To the south the main block broke forward into two wings with a recessed centre, and looked up the sloping park—a picturesque stretch of tumbled ground and old trees.

Although the scale of the building was so large and stately, it was, above all, a genial home, which, so long as I can remember, I was privileged to share. Many is the Christmas I have spent there, and these notes will be published on the day upon which I was to have gone there to spend this Christmas. Even now I can scarcely realise that those calm, spacious rooms, looking away to the Malvern Hills and the Black Mountain, with their store of memories and well known features, are now destroyed. Two years ago I was at Stoke Edith when news came through of the burning of Hagley, and we all thought silently and with dread



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THE NORTH FRONT.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



of the possibility of the same fate falling on this even nobler building. Now it has happened, and I have not the heart to face the truth.

Though the greater part of the contents have been saved, and the walls are still standing, the superb painted interiors that were the particular glory of the house are no more. The painted hall occupied two storeys of the north front. It was definitely the finest example of its kind existing in this country. Thornhill

looking down from balustered galleries, in their periwigs and gay coats, upon us below on the black and white marble floor. The lower panels of the walls were filled with an uncommon type of decoration: grotesque landscapes painted as if composed of marble inlay. In colour they were of dark ochres and madders, and formed a glowing background to the lacquered cabinets and painted leather settees. At one end was one of the earliest existing billiard tables, bought in 1738—which appears



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EAST SIDE OF THE HALL.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

never had greater scope and never painted with greater mastery. The composition of the ceiling—representing Diana and the Olympian host—and of the west wall, representing the Temple of the Muses—was on the level of the finest work in Italy. Indeed, the coolness and freshness of the colouring, that was harmonised with extraordinary brilliance, put this hall, to my mind, among the best achievements of decorative wall painting in any country. On the east wall, Speaker Foley and the artist were portrayed

to have been saved, together with the rest of the hall's contents.

West of the hall was the painted staircase. The lower part was panelled and painted in bistre, with a number of exceedingly interesting landscape views. Some oilcloth had recently been removed from the floor, revealing pink and grey marble paving. From this rose a broad and gradual oak staircase with twisted balusters, and the main walls were decorated in the same manner

as the painted hall. Only last summer they had been restored by Professor E. W. Tristram, and I was looking forward to seeing what Mrs. Foley had told me was a great improvement in their appearance.

South of the hall lay the "saloon"—a fine example of Adam period decoration of *circa* 1771—with its original light colouring of pale lilac panels and white mouldings picked out in gilding. Above it was a library of the same size and date, with semicircular ends and architectural cases of grained oak, filled with Speaker Foley's books.

Of the subsidiary rooms, by far the most important were the State bed and dressing rooms in the south-west wing on the ground floor. The former contained a great upholstered bed of green velvet with elaborate scrollwork and fringes. The walls were hung with a unique set of needleworked hangings representing a garden of the period, with parterres for tulips, an orangery, a tea-party and orange trees in china pots. The dressing-room had a number of shellwork ornaments on the walls, the work of Mrs. Delany, an early visitor to and relative of the family. In several of the bedrooms was fine Brussels tapestry, which has been saved, and all had the large, peaceful proportions and robust mouldings of the period.

The fire seems to have started on the attic floor, somewhere in the centre of the house. At the critical moment, the siren, fixed on the roof, which should have alarmed the estate fire brigade, drawn from tenants in the neighbouring hamlet, failed to work. That meant loss of time. Then a maid returned to get clothes and found herself cut off, so that when the brigade did arrive their efforts had to be directed to rescuing the maid from the roof. In this way valuable time was lost which might successfully have localised the outbreak. The cause of it is not yet known to me, though the time (7 a.m.) and the position suggest a mishap with the lighting of some early fire. Once the flames got hold, the timber construction of the interior and the woodwork of the rooms burnt fiercely. Providentially, no lives were lost; though Mr. Paul Foley is seriously ill as a result of his exposure, in pyjamas and dressing-gown, to the bitter cold throughout that disastrous morning. Owing to his efforts and efficient organisation, the bulk of the contents was saved, and the house has long been fully insured. But the glow and splendour of the painted hall, the sweet smell of old and carefully tended rooms, the sense of two centuries' continued habitation, and the personal memories that live in every little corner of a home long loved—those are lost.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

## NEW SIRES FOR 1928

### THE CHASE OF THE FASHIONABLE STALLION.

AT the end of every season, of course, there must be some notable departures to the stud from the training stable, and it has been customary on the eve of a new breeding season to make some reference in these notes to the group of new sires whose owners are bidding for patronage for them. Perhaps I should say "some of them." For there is no bidding in the cases of the Derby winners, Call Boy and Coronach, the Eclipse Stakes winner Colorado, and certain others. Any bidding is being done by owners of mares. More than ever is this the case in these days of extraordinary competition to get nominations to the best stallions of the period.

Such competition is the outcome of what has been taking place at bloodstock sales ever since the war. It must always have been so to an extent, since the value of a yearling or a foal has been chiefly determined by the reputation of the sire. This sort of thing to-day has passed from a fashion into a craze. No observer in these matters needs to be reminded that buyers will give any money for mares by the fashionable sires, or, alternatively, for foals and yearlings sired by them.

We had striking examples at the recent Newmarket sales of mares that were no more than moderate performers on the racecourse, but which, nevertheless, brought amazingly big prices because they happened to be in foal to the right horse or horses. There is no need to mention the names of those examples. If the buyers were satisfied, well, it is their own business and no one else's; but their policy is making it more and more difficult for the individual of moderate means to get nominations to these crack sires, or even to buy mares in foal to them at fair prices.

I have just been glancing at the advertisements of stallions in the last issue of the *Racing Calendar*. Hurry On, Phalaris, Buchan, Gainsborough, Papyrus, Solario and certain of the newcomers are full not only for this coming season of 1928, but for 1929 and 1930. They would, one supposes, be subscribed to for years beyond that if their owners cared to look farther ahead. Solario is the highest-priced one. Five hundred guineas is his fee. No one admires Solario more than I do. I think he was an altogether exceptional horse or he would never have won the Ascot Gold Cup after being awfully lame in the shoulder for ten days before the race. Yet his fee is so formidable that he is only within the reach of the rich man. The Tetrarch went to 500 guineas, and such was the fee in the last years of his life of the great St. Simon, though at the outset of his brilliant career it was only 50 guineas.

Solario may prove a failure at the stud, though it is almost inconceivable, bred as he is and bearing in mind his distinguished performances and his imposing individuality. The odds are heavily in his favour, too, because of the choice collection of mares that will be on his list. Naturally, if a man is prepared to pay a fee of 500 guineas he is not going to send his worst mare to the horse. It is, therefore, almost guaranteed to horses of the distinction of Solario that they shall succeed. For, after all, the mares do have something to do with the success of the great stallions of the period.

People are so prone to give all the credit to the horse. I notice that Mr. Gerald Deane gave a dinner Winchester-way the other day to celebrate three very pretty happenings: the fact of Buchan, who has always been located at the Littleton Stud, being at the head of the sires' list in 1927; the St. Leger victory of Book Law (Buchan's daughter); and the Derby Cup win of Blackness, who won in Mr. Deane's colours. Buchan had twenty mares that produced the winners of thirty-eight races, worth collectively £45,918, in 1927. I wonder if they, too, were toasted. Perhaps they were, as the most important

of them, Poppingaol (the dam of Book Law), is also owned by the most fortunate owner of Buchan and Book Law.

Numbers of breeders have assured me that they cannot get subscriptions to these fashionable sires, not even when they are prepared to wait one, two or three years. They point out that there is a corner in them by the big breeders, and especially among those who are breeding for the sale ring. For them it is vitally important to get subscriptions if they are to get the big four-figure prices. That is why public breeders like the Sledmere Stud, Viscount Furness, Mr. Ernest Bellaney and others never think of looking beyond the few "fashionables." They cannot afford to help in "making" the well bred though more obscure horse which has passed almost unmentioned from the racecourse to the stud.

It may not be altogether satisfactory, but who can blame the stallion owners. They are competing with each other. They know the world, looking on, appraises their horses' value as stud propositions by the position they hold in the winning sires' list. They know that there must be interchange in these matters between the big private breeders like Lord Derby, Lord Woolavington, Lord Astor and the rest. They know that Sledmere and those other studs that are maintained for sale-ring purposes can be relied on to send the choicely bred and winning-producing mares which have helped to build up the reputations of the studs.

From all of which I have written the reader will understand there is no need here to extol the virtues of Call Boy, Colorado and Coronach, the most distinguished of the new sires at the stud. The former is listed at 400 guineas, though it has little meaning for those who would like to patronise the horse but are informed that his lists are full for the next three years. In the case of Colorado there is merely the laconic announcement that he is "full." Believe me, they are not touting for nominations for this horse for two or three years ahead.

Coronach, it is intimated, is full at 300 guineas, though no period is specified as in the case of Call Boy. No fee, by the way, is mentioned in the case of Colorado. I saw it stated the other day that Coronach was not a shadow of himself when he was beaten by Colorado for the Princess of Wales's Stakes at Newmarket and for the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park. Surely if that were so he should never have been allowed to run. There was a heavy responsibility resting on someone, certainly on the second occasion. I shall always remember Lord Woolavington's fine horse for his splendid wins of the Derby, St. Leger and Coronation Cup, but it is scarcely fair that his defeats as a four year old should be allowed to dim the achievements of Colorado, who did beat him by lengths on three occasions.

Taking the new sires in their alphabetical order, it is to be noted that Bulger, by Bridge of Earn out of a Black Jester mare, has gone to the Knockany Stud, at which, I believe, the Derby winners Galtee More and Ard Patrick were bred in the time of the late Mr. John Gubbins. Bulger was a smart horse when Stanley Wootton had him at his best, which I imagine could not always be the case. Embargo, the property of the Maharajah Rajpipla, will in future be found at the Elston Stud, Shrewton, at a fee of 198 sovs. He is by Argosy from the Marco mare Elland, and I think he was a very good horse indeed when he won the City and Suburban and later ran second for the Jubilee Handicap under a big weight. It may be, however, that his best performance was when he ran Coronach to a length at level weights for the Coronation Cup at Epsom this year.

One of the most notable horses now in retirement is Sir Abe Bailey's Foxlaw, winner of the Jockey Club Stakes last year and of the Ascot Gold Cup this year. Those readers who



were present at Ascot that day will long remember his dramatic finish, and how he maintained the prestige of the home-bred horses at a time when one of the French challengers was greatly expected to score. It was the last race to be run by the son of Son in Law and Alope, and Sir Abe Bailey seized this ideally psychological moment to retire him from the Turf. Thus, he has been nicely rested and prepared for the career on which he is now about to enter. At a fee of only 98 guineas he is, to my mind, about the cheapest horse at the stud to-day, and it is not surprising to find that he is full for the coming season. He is a grand individual—a beautiful brown so characteristic of the stock of his sire, the possessor of grand bone and physique, and quality all over him. I predict a most successful future for this horse.

Highborn II, by Saint Just from Highly, by the Flying Fox horse Ajax, is at the Lambourn Stud in Berkshire. He is the property of Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen, who gave £10,000 for him at Ascot two years ago and can never have regretted the purchase. He became our best sprinter, especially in soft going, and I do not think a fee of 98 guineas is unreasonable for his services. A year ago Mrs. Chester Beatty's Money Maker, the winner of the Dewhurst Plate as a two year old, was being talked about as a likely colt for the Derby. He was a brother to Zionist, who is now at the stud in France. Money Maker gave trouble in his training during the only dry period we had this year. Probably it was a mistake to go on with him, but for the reason stated he never had the chance to show of what he might be made as a three year old. I was, personally, much disappointed. His owner will surely give him some of her best mares, while others can avail themselves of his services at a 48-guinea fee.

I fancy the grey horse Prestissimo, by the St. Leger winner, Caligula, from Double Quick by Bachelor's Double, will get some patronage at a 48-guinea fee. I knew him well when in training and always thought he was a horse of character. He met with an accident in the spring and could not be trained.

There are only two others in an unusually short list this year, and both were trained by Reggie Day at Newmarket—Son and Heir and Weissdorn. The former is a fine big grey horse by Son in Law from Cinderella. He was bred at the National Stud and cost Sir Abe Bailey as a yearling five or six thousand guineas. He was only just beginning to fulfil his promise a month or so before the St. Leger, and Reggie Day has assured me that he tried him good enough to win. Carslake declares that he was only cantering when he broke down in the race at Doncaster, and even on three legs was able to finish third. He has gone to the Tickford Park Stud, Newport Pagnell, in Berkshire, at the ridiculously low fee of 9 guineas. With Foxlaw, Bucks Hussar and Son and Heir Sir Abe Bailey has tried to put good sires at the disposal of breeders at reasonable fees, while when Son in Law was at his prime he never asked an exorbitant figure for his services.

Weissdorn has also gone to the Tickford Park Stud. This German-bred horse won two Grosvenor Cups at Liverpool after proving himself about the best horse of his day in Germany. By Prunus, his grandsire on that side of the pedigree is Dark Ronald, while William the Third is the corresponding grandsire on the dam's side. It is a very fine pedigree right away back, and as Weissdorn is a strong masculine type of horse, I have no hesitation in recommending him to breeders. I feel certain he will do well.

PHILIPPOS.

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS



Take up that shaggy Shetland, put him in the corner stall,  
(He's a perfect little devil, given any corn at all),  
But rub him down, and pull his tail—a chap can't look a fool  
And turn out worse than other fellows coming home from school.

From forest and from mountain, or from an island home  
All sorts, all shapes, all sizes the saucy ponies come;  
And Robin's Exmoor born and bred, but Blackie comes from Wales—  
He is a hard-mouthed handful, but he had that flight of rails.

The ponies fuss and fidget till the boys and girls on top  
Are secretly embarrassed as to whether they can stop.  
Don't be jealous overmuch to-day who's going well in front—  
Hold the gate for Young Adventure when he rides out for a hunt.

And when the welcome cheer proclaims it's long odds on a run  
Slip off and pull the top bars down that *They* may see the fun;  
And if their ponies jump it a bit bigger than they thought,  
Just pick 'em up, and pop 'em back—*your* eager legs *were* short!

Some see the hunt; some get thrown out—they may have all the pluck  
But not the stoutest heart on earth can guarantee the luck.  
Too many a lad by sheer mischance must say good-bye to Hounds—  
Your Son, or mine, may have to ride the Empire's loneliest bounds.

So when the old mahogany is twinkling with the port,  
(And you're comfortably certain you've been going as you ought),  
For luck just toast the "thrown-out" man, who thinks *his* luck is in  
If he's got a Christmas pudding being warmed up *in its tin*.

PHILIP A. MARTIN.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## THE USE OF SPURS.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The argument in your columns on the use of the spur appears to be becoming somewhat profound, and, if you will permit me, I should like to hazard a few remarks; if not convincing, possibly they may be interesting. The majority of riders do not use their legs (apart from spurs!) enough to control their mounts. Were they to understand better the psychology of the horse they would realise still better how valuable the legs are as an aid. I reside in a well known hunting county, and it is distressing to hear the remarks at the covert side from people who, by their looks, should know better, as to how "my horse won't do this," and "I can't get him to do that," whereas, had they accustomed their mount to leg control as well as bridle, they would not complain as they do. When training, it would be well to realise that the horse was created for motion and requires motion, and the facility with which he puts himself into motion at the slightest instigation is his most precious quality for us. The rider learns to control that mobility to his own ends by bringing him *in hand*, i.e., he may be brought into a collected position in which it is possible to act mechanically on his body and thereby make him go through the movements he (the rider) desires; and likewise prevent him making those he would wish. Therefore, on the part of the rider, the equalising of restraint, more or less, on the forehand and propulsion on the hindquarters brings his mount to that desirable state of collection where horse and rider mutually agree they are part and parcel of each other. Unfortunately for myself, I became possessed of a horse last season which, the first time I rode him to hounds, belted with me so badly I did not dare again to repeat the experiment. My sole hope of being able to make him presentable was to send him to an enclosed riding school; in seven weeks (and he was worked no more than one hour a day), he learnt to pivot the forehand round the croup, start all paces from the halt, canter on two tracks and take the high school air known as "Passage." That he did all this quietly and with no fuss spoke well for his training. All this, I believe, could not have been attained with this particular horse in the time stated without the knowledge that his rider possessed *sharp* spurs. Before he was considered safe to ride, he had to submit, first in the school, then outside, at all paces, to let other horses pass him. I do not think it depends so much on the sharpness of the spur as on the length and shape of the neck, and that the rider takes into consideration the length or shortness of his own leg; the rider also must take into consideration his own temperament, as well as that of his horse, and how best he can attain the result he wishes on the particular horse he rides. In all training, the Latin phrase, *festina lente*, should be firmly implanted in the rider's mind and he should invariably avoid a row. Were he to consider all this, he would discern what sort of spurs to use and how to apply them. In the hunting field spurs are advisable, not only are



"PRETTY MAIDS ALL IN A ROW."

they useful to collect a horse on a bad bit of tar-mac road, but it must be considered the instinct of all animals is to incur the least possible fatigue. A horse runs, springs, goes collected with high action when fresh; this he does to facilitate the vital functions of his body. When this need has passed, he goes through the amount of exercise which is required for keeping his limbs in proper condition, and then does not move without a special reason, i.e., without something inspiring him with a feeling of fear, and often, during a "run," when the *nonsense* has gone out of him, the judicious stimulant of the spur may save a fall. It is advisable to use short spurs, as nothing is worse than to find, on returning home after a really good day, that the animal which has carried you so nobly, has, in the heat of the run, been inadvertently scarred and pricked by too sharp spurs.—X.

## BEN MARSHALL'S PICTURES.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—After having consulted the *Racing Calendar* for the years 1819–20, I have found that the portrait in COUNTRY LIFE Christmas Number, 1927, called "Mr. Thornhill's Sailor" (winner of the Derby, 1820), shows Mr. Thornhill's bay filly Shoveler, by Scud, winner of the Oaks stakes, 1819, the picture being painted the same year. Mr. Thornhill's Sailor was a chestnut colt. You will find the same mistake in *British Sporting Artists from Barlow to Herring*, by Walter Shaw Sparrow. The evidence of this is, too, to be seen by the fact that the picture is painted 1819, and Sailor won his Derby only the following year; and you can also see it from the colours and the sex of the horses.—C. E. REVENTLOW.

## A STATUE OF FLOWERS.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I send you a photograph from Japan, the land of chrysanthemums, showing the figure of a man being made in living flowers. The figure is built wholly of chrysanthemums, with the exception of the head and hands, which are modelled in bamboo. The plants have their roots under a wire frame, which form the general outline of the figure. Figures of national heroes are common, as are scenes from plays, in which the leading actors are represented in their most popular characters.—FUKI SAKAMOTO.

## WOMEN GARDENERS OF THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The accompanying woodcut, taken from a German translation of the famous *L'Agriculture et Maison Rustique* of Charles Estienne, published in 1596, is proof that

the professional woman gardener is not a product of the nineteenth century. Here we have her digging, planting, sowing, quite unimpeded by voluminous skirts, and shaded from the sun by a hat of wide circumference. One of the first and greatest of women gardeners was Queen Semiramis, of whom it is recorded that, whenever she built a palace in her empire, which stretched from Babylon to India, she also constructed a garden. Did she employ gardeners of her own sex? Stepping across some few thousand years, we find the horticultural descendants of Semiramis in those great ladies of England who fashioned their own gardens. Such a one was the Countess of Bedford, "esteemed among the greatest wits of her time," who made that glorious garden of Moor Park which Sir William Temple celebrated as "the sweetest place, I think, which I have ever seen in my life." Sir William, it may be noted, writing in the seventeenth century, speaks of the care of the flower garden as essentially a woman's occupation. Can any reader of COUNTRY LIFE throw light on the history of the employment of women as gardeners?—G. M. GODDEN.

## A LARGE CITRON.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I have just picked from a tree in my forecourt—here in Jersey—a citron which weighs exactly 1lb. 3 oz. I have never had before so large a fruit from my oranges, or other citruses, and I think it must be a record for trees growing out of doors in so high a latitude.—ATHELSTAN RILEY.

## "AN APPLE CROP RECORD."

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I think this must belong to Somerset, for in my early days I knew of an apple tree growing at Pitt in the parish of Donyatt, which was acknowledged to have been the largest in the county. I was very well acquainted with the then occupier of the orchard in which it grew—Mr. George Dinham—and I have heard him say that in a good bearing year he has made ten hogsheads of cider from the fruit of this tree alone. Allowing seven bags, containing 120lb. each, for making one hogshead, a fair estimate, this works out at 8,400lb. of apples from one tree. I remember measuring the trunk of this tree on one occasion, and found that about 2ft. from the ground its girth was 11ft. The lower branches radiated from the centre like the spokes of a wheel to a distance of 30ft. to 40ft., and were supported by numerous props. About the beginning of the present century this monarch of the land of apples was converted into firewood.—W. L. RADFORD.

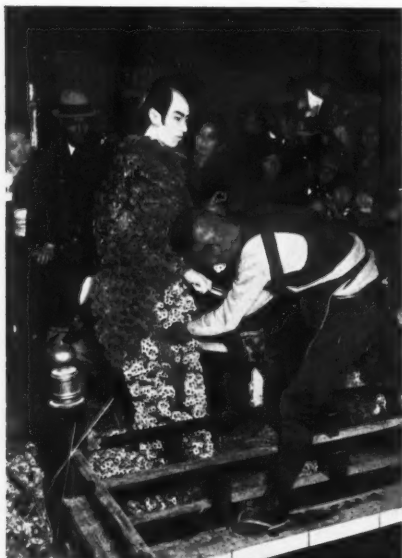
## ROUGH AND READY HAIRDRESSING.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—When travelling in the interior of Australia the necessity for a careful toilet each morning has little or no appeal. Coming in touch with civilisation, however, one feels grateful for a "haircut and shave" before arriving. The process is usually painful, but no one questions the improvement.—A. W. L.



A WAYSIDE BARBER.



THE CHRYSANTHEMUM MAN.



## A NEW SCOTTISH BIRD.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Although the sociable plover (*Chettusia gregaria*) is a very rare visitor to Britain, having occurred in Lancashire, Kent and Sussex (small flocks), and in County Meath in Ireland, there was no record for Scotland until November 3rd last year (1926). A naval officer shooting woodcock on North Ronaldshay, Orkney, on that date shot, about sunset, what he took to be, in the bad light, a golden plover, but which, on retrieving, he found to be a sociable plover, and, as such, the first record of the bird in Scotland. On being sent to the Royal Scottish Museum, where it is now on exhibition, it was found to be a young female, a bird of the year. The Lancashire record was about 1860, and no further record was established until the Irish one in 1899, these two and the present one being all on the autumn migration, and all single birds. The small flock in Kent and the two small flocks in Sussex all occurred on the spring migration in the month of May. The Lancashire specimen for some years was wrongly identified as a cream-coloured courser. The sociable plover breeds from the southern steppes of Russia to Turkestan, the Altai and western Siberia, wintering in India and North-east Africa, and has been recorded as a casual visitor to Poland, Hungary, southern France, Spain, Italy and Greece.—H. W. ROBINSON.

## A FRIEND FROM KENYA.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I wonder if this photograph of my little "bush-baby" would be of interest to you.



A BUSH BABY.

He is a native of Kenya Colony and, as your readers probably know, these animals sleep all day and are on the hunt at night seeking what they may devour in the way of insects and birds. He makes a most charming pet with his quaint little ways, his kittenish games and his affectionate disposition. He joins us in the sitting-room every evening at dusk and greatly resents being put to bed again when we retire! He is a great friend of my dog and knows no fear. I have had him in captivity well over two years, and though to a great extent his food is quite unnatural and he has had to adapt himself to an utterly different life than the one to which he was born, he is in perfect health and condition, and is the proud possessor of a beautiful coat, like chinchilla, which he is constantly preening like a cat. I doubt if many of these little creatures have ever been kept as pets. If any of your readers have one and would care to write to me and compare notes, I should be delighted to hear from them. I may add that no photograph could do justice to his beauty, as he detests the bright light which is necessary for a snapshot, so his benignly intelligent

and expressive eyes are not depicted at their best.—E. M. CLAY.

## TIMBERWORK.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In COUNTRY LIFE you frequently illustrate examples of timber-built houses. Here is a photograph of a timber-built shop at Roye, on the Somme, which I think is worthy to rank with some of the delightful work of this kind which you have shown us from time to time.—SUSSEX.

## A NEW BROOM AT ALASSIO.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In place of the late head of the municipality at Alassio, a *podesta* with practically unlimited powers was appointed to the city by the Italian Government. During the Middle Ages independent Italian cities often selected their governors from other parts of the country, so as to make sure of a just *régime* free of nepotism. The old custom seems to have been revived in the case of Alassio, for the new *podesta* is an outside man, and rich. All over the town there are now waste-paper receptacles, into which people must put envelopes, wrappers and other rubbish such as are usually thrown into the road. Meat, vegetables and other kinds of food exposed for sale have to be covered with butter muslin, while the salesmen must wear white overalls. Lately the *podesta* interviewed the butchers, and told them that if they did not lower their prices it would be done for them compulsorily. I believe that the dress of bathers has also been regulated. If a passer-by fingers foodstuff in a shop he is fined; also, the shopman is similarly fined for allowing the food to be handled. Alassio is now a most model town, and could certainly give points to any English seaside resort in the matter of cleanliness. So long, however, as the lira remains at 89, the Italian Riviera, sunny paradise though it may be, will remain half empty.—FLEUR-DE-LYS.

## OENOTHERA TRICHOCLALYX.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I was very interested in your article on *Oenothera trichocalyx* in the issue of October 29th. My colleague and fellow-collector, Mr. Roy Weston, has some beautiful pictures of this lovely evening primrose in its natural habitat, and I am venturing to send you one of these, hoping that it will



AT ROYE ON THE SOMME.

interest some of your readers. The flowers grow among the sand dunes at the south end of the San Joaquin Valley, Kern County, California. They blossom in April and May, the blooms remaining open on cool days, but closing until the evening on hot days. The scent is exquisitely sweet, and is sometimes almost overpowering in the neighbourhood of a large clump at evening. Some of these large clumps attain to an area of several acres, and the flowers line the Los Angeles-Bakersfield highway for about six miles.—ALAN J. GALLOWAY.

## THE SENSITIVE COLLIE.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—On the farm of Mr. William Main, Barjarg, Barhill (on the Galloway-Ayrshire border), I saw, the other day, a remarkable black and white collie dog. "Laddie" is his name, and I witnessed him catch a rabbit; but he, evidently, was sensitive as to the spilling of blood, and refused to worry the rabbit to death. Instead of that he hauled the rabbit to a burn and there held its head under water till it was drowned. He has never, I am told, done other than drown his rabbits, and is, therefore, surely, unique among dogs.—A. MILLER.



IN ITS CALIFORNIAN HOME.

## A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY ENTERTAINMENT.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I doubt whether any of your readers would be sufficiently enterprising—I might say courageous—to carry out the suggestions for the amusement of guests made by Robert May in his *Whole Duty of Cookery Dissected*, a volume published in 1661 and now rather scarce. Here is one of his most ingenious schemes: As a centrepiece there was a stag of coarse paste with an arrow in the side of him and his

body filled with wine," which was surrounded by salt in which were stuck egg-shells filled with rose-water. "At one side of the charger wherein is the Stag is placed a Pye in which there be some live Frogs," and at the other, one with live birds, the crusts of both pies being decorated with gilt bay leaves. "All being placed upon the table order it so that some of the Ladies may be persuaded to pluck the arrow out of the Stag, then will the wine follow as blood running out of a wound. . . . By this time you may suppose they will desire to see what is in the Pyes, where first lifting the lid off one out skip the Frogs which makes

the Ladies to skip and skreek; next after the other Pye when come out the Birds which, by a natural instinct flying at the Light, will put out the candles so that the flying Birds and the skipping Frogs, the one above, the other beneath, will cause much delight and pleasure to the Company." Furthermore, besides the stag and the pies and their contents, toy cannon in pasteboard ships were to be fired on the table, and the ladies, "to sweeten the stink of the powder," were to take the egg-shells of rose-water and throw them at each other! It must have been a jocund scene!—R. E. HEAD.

## FIRE RISKS AT YULETIDE

BY S. G. GAMBLE, F.S.I., AND CAPT. A. SUTHERLAND GRAEME, A.R.I.B.A.

*The burning of two more country houses during the past week—Stoke Edith and Michelham Priory—impresses the need of vigilance and care during the actual festivities of Christmastide. The more so since, at Stoke Edith at least, the anti-fire precautions were unusually complete.*

AT this season of the year, when house parties are assembling to celebrate the festival of Christmas amid jollity and goodwill, we hope that it may not altogether relegate us to the limbo of everything dismal if we interject a word of warning, having regard to the upward trend of fire losses which normally takes place at this time.

Hitherto we have confined our attention to the old country mansion; but the remarks which follow will apply to every house and every householder, although it is, naturally, the old house which provides the greatest risk as a background for any special celebrations.

Practically the whole of the extra risk of fire at Christmas-time is due to special schemes of decoration of the house and to the use of fancy dress.

Let us, therefore, turn for a few moments to a consideration of various special risks which appear under these two headings.

All light and flimsy decorations are potential causes and abettors of fires. A burning match, or the flame of a candle or from a gas point, is sufficient to start the trouble. The decorations and other forms of fire risk which are worthy of special consideration are:

(A) *Bunting, flags, etc.*—These should be kept clear of fires and naked lights, and from all electric switchboards and fuses.

(B) *Paper or (Chinese) lanterns.*—These should be hung with wire and, if possible, out of the line of draughts, which cause them to swing, and, if not carefully watched, to catch fire.

(C) *Tissue paper, streamers, etc.*—The less of these that are used the better, unless they are of a specially treated kind. The risks are obvious.

(D) *Cotton wool.*—This is a highly inflammable material, much beloved of fairies, mock snowmen and even Santa Claus himself, whose venerable beard has, before now, been the cause of lifelong scars of burning.

There is no excuse for the extended use of this material, as slag wool, which is fire resisting, forms an excellent substitute, and can easily be obtained.

(E) *Celluloid* should not be used at any time in any form whatsoever. There is no doubt that it is largely employed in ignorance of its dangerous qualities. In view of the enormous number of articles of everyday use in the manufacture of which celluloid is employed it may be useless to enlarge upon the above general statement. It is argued that there is no special risk in the great majority of forms in which it appears; but, as we shall never reach a stage at which it can be said that all causes of fire are known, it is better that the statement should stand, alluding as it does to a material and not to a specified article.

Two cases may be quoted as being of special significance at this time.

On the occasion of some festivities it was thought advisable to hire a piano rather than to use the valuable "Grand"; the afternoon party for children included "Musical Chairs," with the head of the house at the piano, complete with paper headress and smoking a cigar. Part of the red-hot ash fell from the cigar on to the keys; there was an instant blaze; the children fled in a panic in which several were injured, and the pianist received very serious injuries. The piano keys were faced with celluloid and, although this is not usual in the majority of good class pianos, it is to be found in the cheaper varieties, mostly of foreign manufacture. (Incidentally, even if ivory keys make a piano too expensive, a very respectable substitute may be found in a material made from compressed milk powder, which is non-inflammable.)

In the second case, a lady's wrist and arm were severely burned by a bangle of celluloid manufacture which ignited during a game of "snapdragon." We now come to our invaluable companions.

(F) *Matches.*—We are all familiar with the story of "Harriet and the Matches," which was intended as a warning against

allowing children to use or play with them. It holds good to-day as it did when it was written.

The number of occasions in which children have set fire to their clothes must be considerable; and the risk is the greater if, as is frequently the case at Christmas parties, the children are in fancy dress. Matches should never be left about on these occasions; and the lighting of candles on Christmas trees or elsewhere should always be supervised by adults.

We cannot leave the reader with the impression that our only warning on the subject of matches should be confined to their use by children. The "Harriet" poem was good, but it did not go far enough. From a somewhat lengthy experience, we may say that nearly everyone, at some time or another, is a child in the use of matches.

It is not a matter of the careful use of a match for the purpose for which it was lit, so much as the sometimes criminal foolishness with which the unextinguished match is thrown away: on to carpets; into waste paper baskets; into dry shrubberies, heath, stubble, heather, etc.; among shavings, paper and litter of all kinds. Ash trays may be provided, nay, even given away wholesale as advertisements, but the lighted match fiend remains strongly entrenched in his castle of monumental idiocy.

(G) *Candles.*—Special mention must be made of candles, particularly when they are in clusters, as occurs on Christmas trees. They are easily caused to droop by the heat of others beneath or beside them, and, unless carefully watched, may set fire to the branches or to articles hung from them. In this connection—

(H) *Christmas trees* themselves must be mentioned, as they, and, indeed, all dry shrubs, evergreens, etc., used as decorations, are easily ignited, especially fir trees, which contain a considerable amount of resin.

(I) *Fireworks.*—There are upon the market many kinds of fireworks which are stated to be safe for indoor use. While the statement may be more or less true as regards the fireworks themselves, so much depends upon the circumstances and surroundings in which they are used that we are unable to admit that they are a safe form of entertainment.

Of course, if a specially safe apartment is chosen and proper supervision is exercised, there may not be any great risk in their use, but, generally speaking, festivities, especially where children are concerned, are safer without them.

We cannot pass on without making further allusion to a matter which we have already stressed in former articles in this journal—the question of—

(K) *Electric wiring.*—So much has already been written under this heading, in dealing with the special fire risks of old houses, that it only remains to urge that no alteration should be made in electric wiring, either for producing special lighting effects, such as may be necessary for theatricals, illumination of Christmas trees, etc., or for any other purpose, other than by a competent electrician.

Special care should be taken to see that all fire buckets are properly filled, and that such further first-aid appliances as may exist are in working order. Stout blankets should be available and the position of all apparatus should be known to everyone.

It should also be arranged that, when the whole household is present in one apartment, as would probably be the case when theatrical, conjuring, etc., performances are being given, the house should be patrolled at intervals by some responsible person.

Such an arrangement would serve the double purpose of a safeguard against fire and burglary.

In conclusion, while we have no wish to be "wet blankets" (however useful such articles may be in actual fact!), or to throw any preparatory gloom over the festivities of Christmas, there is no good to be gained by shutting one's eyes to facts; and we hope that everyone will be able to enjoy their Christmastide unspoiled by any untoward occurrences such as we have alluded to in these lines.



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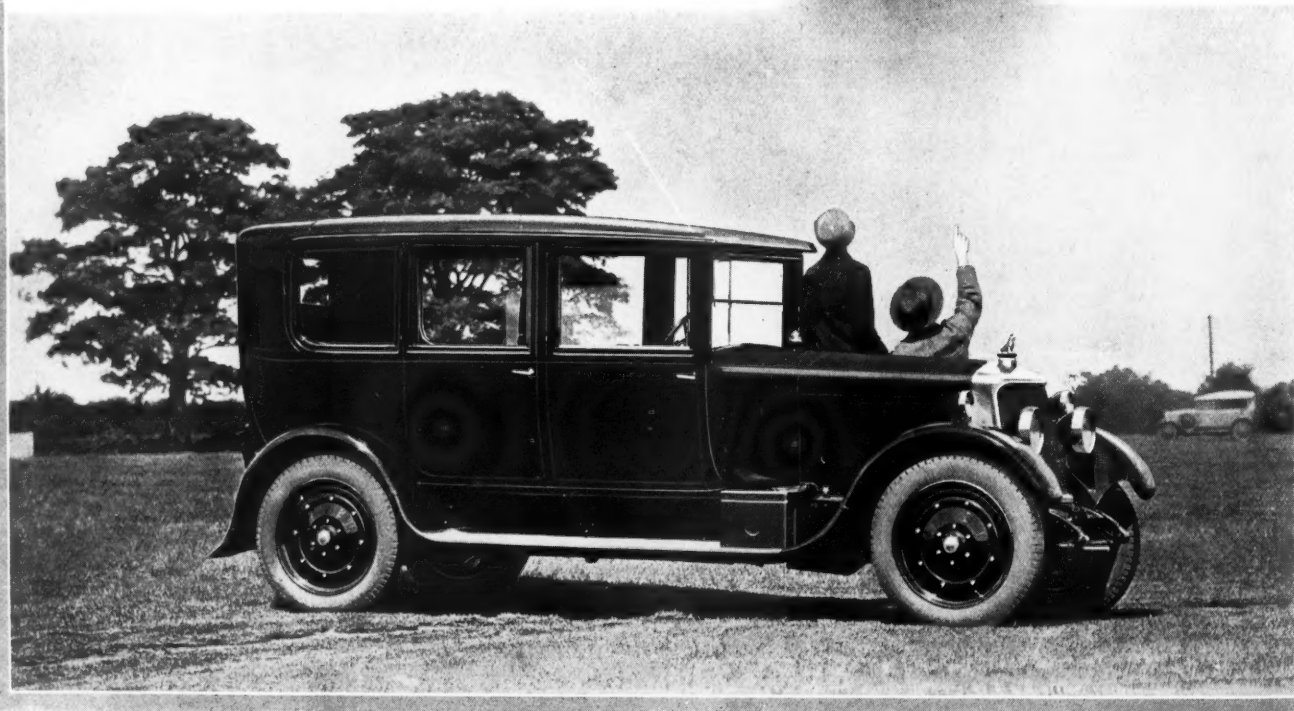
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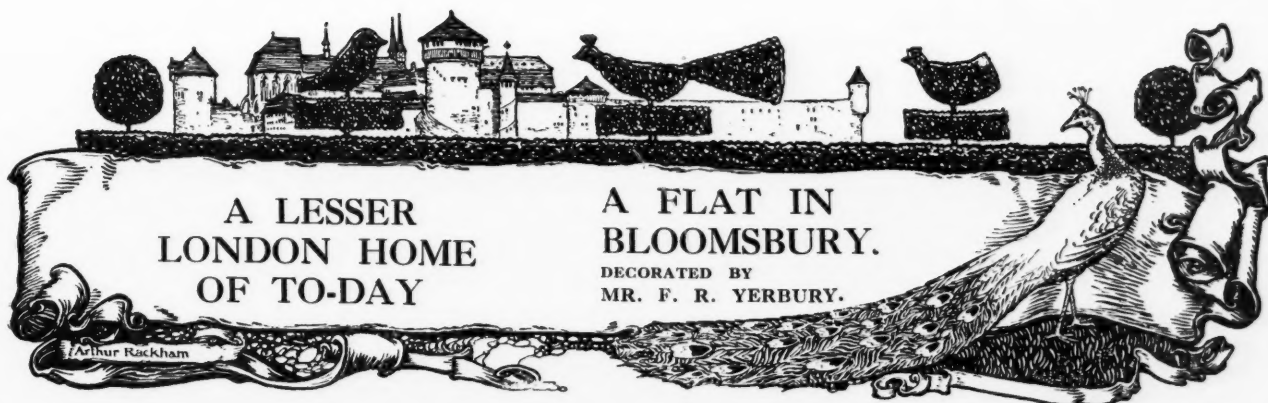
### ANOTHER OVERSEAS SUCCESS

The best performance in the A.C. of Ceylon's recent Reliability Trial was made by Mr. J. W. England's 14 h.p. Armstrong Siddeley. There were thirty-five car entries.

G 30







A FLAT in town seems to offer more opportunity for individuality in furnishing than a house in the country. Taking an average case, the rooms to be dealt with are fewer, and one is disposed to give them an intimate air. Just what the treatment shall be depends entirely on personal choice and, it may be added, expenditure. To some the "period" room appeals, others desire something quite unusual, something they can show off to their friends. But others, again, prefer the furnishing and decorative scheme to be unassertive, yet not dull. It is this character which pervades a flat in Bloomsbury to which Mr. F. R. Yerbury, secretary of the Architectural Association, has now migrated from his modern concrete house at Amersham (illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE for July 12th, 1924).

The flat comprises the two top floors of one of the countless ranges of houses which sprung up with such rapidity about 1800. There were no architectural features of any particular merit, though the mantelpieces in the rooms were the simple marble ones which preceded the elaborate Victorian efforts. What has been done by Mr. Yerbury is all in the nature of paint and fabrics, and the grouping of furniture in a pleasant way. Colour plays a large part in the decorative scheme. It enlivens the rooms, but there is nothing garish.

The sitting-room is at the front of the house, overlooking the street. Its walls have been painted peach colour, and this is carried over the ceiling, with a black border-line along the cornice. A line of black also is on the outer member of the



SITTING-ROOM.

door architraves, framing in the stippled silvery-grey woodwork. The floor is covered by a plain string-colour hair carpet, overspread with Persian rugs, and the tones of these are taken up in the window hangings. With the exception of a "baby grand" Steck, the furniture is all old. It dates from different periods and comprises Italian and Dutch pieces as well as English ones, but they live very comfortably together—a mahogany Sheraton settee by the fire, an English walnut bureau near by, a chest of Dutch marquetry between the windows, long-backed Italian armchairs at the opposite end of the room, and so forth. Italian, too, are the carved and gilt wood candlesticks on the mantelshelf and the fitting that hangs from the centre of the ceiling. But among the minor embellishments are some pieces of modern Swedish pressed glass, gay little china figures of Viennese craftsmanship, and some modern pictures by Mr. T. B. W. Champneys. The whole assemblage makes a delightful room, displaying individuality in its colour scheme and arrangement.

Out of this sitting-room opens a study. Here is an entirely different scheme. The walls are black—glossy black enamel—the ceiling is a soft blue, with a red Chinese umbrella suspended from it as a lighting fitting; the woodwork canary yellow, the mantelpiece stippled apple green. A lively room—yet not bizarre, as this recital of its colours might lead one to suppose. Withal, it has a restful air—a place in which to read or write and to "listen in" (for a wireless set takes its place decorously in the scheme).

The dining-room is at the back of the house, overlooking



DINING-ROOM.

the tops of fine trees that are surprising amidst London's bricks and mortar. A dining-room should, by all the canons, have a "fresh" appearance, and this room has that. The walls are painted parchment tone and the ceiling is turquoise blue with a band of salmon pink along the cornice; these two colours appearing again, stippled, on the doors and the mantelpiece, and in the modern French electric-light fittings over the mantelpiece.

Across the passage is the kitchen, of which no more need be said than that it has been equipped efficiently.

The bedrooms are on the floor above. The principal one, shown by the accompanying illustration, has its walls stippled in blue, which makes a good background for the beds, with their green and silver brocade coverlets. A pair of carved wood mirrors, dull gilt, are on the wall, and between them is an old Italian bracket arm holding the bed-light and its shade. One of the D-ends of a beautiful Sheraton table, with a mirror of Adam character above it on the wall, serves the purposes of the toilet.

The rest of the flat comprises a nursery, a bathroom (the sole structural alteration made) and two bedrooms, all displaying the same good taste in their furnishing and decorative treatment. Old and new are brought quietly into unison, and there is solid satisfaction in seeing how an intimate and personal character



BEDROOM.

has been achieved without any straining after effect. The rooms look what they are—meant to be lived with, day in day out, not queer fancies that may amuse for the moment but become tiresome after their novelty has worn off.

R. R. P.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

**On the Old Trail**, by Morley Roberts. (Nash and Grayson, 12s. 6d.) THERE is tragedy in returning to scenes of failure, but a man may look again happily enough at the places where, however humbly, he did his best. So Mr. Morley Roberts believed, and this book is a record of impressions gained in 1926, when he re-visited British Columbia after a long absence. It is over forty years since he shovelled as a section hand on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the memories of those pioneering days have survived the labours of authorship in London. "If there is any string to this book," he says, "to which I may hang barbaric beads, it is undoubtedly the rail from Montreal to Vancouver. I helped with my little shovel to build it. And having done so, I became a 'railroad' man for ever." That is easy to understand and admire, but the C.P.R. does not intrude itself unduly. Mr. Roberts has kept it in its place, and it serves to take us, as it took him, back along a blend of the old and the new trail. He writes vividly, mingling regret for the past with a general appreciation of the present, and the result is a most interesting book. Mr. Roberts travelled from Montreal to the Pacific Coast. He went with the Trail Riders to Ptarmigan Valley, and thence through Kicking Horse Pass round the base of Mount Leach to the Ice River. Here he started fishing, and the succeeding chapters will make any angler envious. It is true that the Ice River and the head waters of the Kootenay were disappointing, but there were rainbow and grey trout in the Shushwap. From Sicamous he went through the Fraser Canon to Vancouver, "the magic city," and found it to be "something like a Joke of the Gods," for he had stood on the banks of the Fraser River when there was no city. The presence of this "miraculous mushroom" filled him with melancholy; it depressed him with a sense of evanescence. But, though he is not wholly a supporter of progress, it is good to know that his journey left him believing that "British Columbia will be as wonderful and splendid as my dreams have made her."

**London: Being a Comprehensive Survey of the History, Traditions and Historical Associations . . . arranged under Streets in Alphabetical Order**, by George H. Cunningham. (Dent, 21s.)

**London Rebuilt, 1897-1927**, by Harold Clunn. (Murray, 18s.)

**A London Omnibus**. (Chatto and Windus, 2s. 6d.)

H. B. WHEATLEY'S "London Past and Present, Its History, Associations and Traditions," in three volumes (1891), is the standard work on this engrossing subject. It was itself based on Peter Cunningham's "Handbook of London." Mr. George H. Cunningham naturally bases his single volume of 880 pages on Wheatley, though without acknowledgment, and a very handy, compendious work it is. It contains about 50 per cent. new information, not always of the first importance. Naturally, the names of celebrated residents are now much more numerous. Wheatley's information is mostly incorporated and concentrated. While Mr. Cunningham was about it, he might have recorded, as far as he could, the architects of outstanding buildings, such as Grosvenor and Dorchester Houses, Belgrave Square, and churches. Unfortunately, the architectural history is wholly neglected.

Mr. Clunn has known London long and, in the 140 odd photographs reproduced, gives a record of the changes of the last thirty years. Three hundred pages of letterpress are filled with the record, and with suggestions for meeting future difficulties. Mr. Clunn, for instance, stresses the folly of such suggestions as overhead roadways. With far less cost and inconvenience the elimination of a few "bottle necks" would be equally efficacious. The cardinal defect of the book, which disqualifies it from becoming a standard work of reference, is its uniform silence on the architects responsible for this rebuilding of London.

Sir Edwin Lutyens is mentioned as having designed a tablet in the Belgravia Hotel, Sir Thomas Brock as the sculptor of the Victoria Memorial. That is all. It is difficult to know which is the most unaccountable: the author's amazing lack of curiosity, or his impertinence in offering a book entirely about buildings without naming a single architect. The nicely got up "Omnibus" is a good half-crown's-worth of borrowings from Froissart and Stow onwards.

**Shorn**, by Robert Grant. (Murray, 7s. 6d.)

MR. ROBERT GRANT has scored heavily in a quite unlikely direction in this novel. He has elected to tell his story in the first person, generally a difficult matter and likely to prove a drawback, and has succeeded in making it a source of strength. It would be difficult to say how much *Shorn* owes to the personality of Charles, through whose eyes most of its events are seen and by whom most of them are told. The hero of fiction who tells his own tale is so often forced by the exigencies of the narrative to appear as a conceited prig or a verbose bore that this simple, cheerful, unassuming gentleman comes as a delightful contrast, and since "I" and the author are, naturally, always somewhat associated in the reader's mind, puts the whole book on the pleasantest possible footing. Charles, to a great extent unconsciously, becomes involved in the plans of a certain American, one Yates, who, for the honour of his country, is intent on discovering the identity of the man behind the "oil interests" which are fomenting trouble in Mexico. Yates has pretty well marked down his man before he meets Charles, but he gets him to join the party "hunting hidden treasure" in Mexico, by means of which he brings the financier to confession and punishment. The magnate's wife, who perpetually misunderstands every allusion, translating it into the language of the films, is quite an uncommon figure; and a charming heroine is provided by Charles' plucky cousin Blanche. How Charles bought up the tramlines in Matlalpan, and the wild attempts made by his supporters to see that they paid makes exceptionally funny reading. Altogether, without having any literary pretensions, *Shorn* is as good a yarn for an idle hour's amusement as anyone, however critical, could ask for. It is full of laughter and brisk movement, and it leaves a very pleasant taste behind.

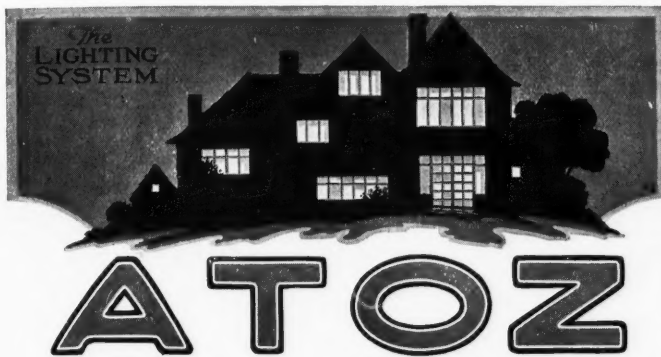
**Typet's Treasure**, by John Trevena. (Chapman and Hall 7s. 6d.)

THE two halves of this story of adventure are divided by a hundred years. The second half, describing in the first person the discovery of a treasure that was locally known to be hidden on the Cornish coast, takes the form of a manuscript found and edited by the author. The first half is a history invented to account for the existence of this treasure. These first adventures seem to attempt the manner of Mr. Crosbie Garstin's excellent trilogy of piracy, smuggling, fights, lovely and loving ladies. But the scenery becomes so complicated and the adventures so very improbable that belief becomes dulled, and the tendency to skip at times very marked. The eighteenth century story, however, is more probable, and readers who like plenty of rapid action should enjoy it.

**Vignettes of Childhood, Sketches and Reflections**, by Sir Samuel Scott, Bt. (Philip Allan, 2s. 6d.)

SIR SAMUEL SCOTT has a delicate gift with pen and with pencil, of which this little volume contains some charming examples. A dainty humour and the keenest appreciation of childhood as it really was—and is—are among the qualities which always recommend his work to the reader who does not ask for purple patches and thunderclaps. I make bold to say that in such papers as "On Misunderstanding Children" and "The Funk" there is more quiet wisdom than is to be found in many a fat tome on the psychology of childhood. S.





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## THE ESTATE MARKET CHRISTMAS AT HOME

**W**HETHER enjoying the luxury of a "Country Home," the antiquity and beauty of which have been described in these pages, or that of a "Lesser Country House," or of any of the other residences which, in town and country, by the river, at the seaside or elsewhere, have been mentioned in the Estate Market page this year as having changed hands, everyone must like to think at this season that those less fortunate have not lacked opportunities of securing for themselves fuller and better accommodation than was within the reach of many not very long ago.

Just a week ago, if the average rate of progress was maintained, the number of houses built since the Armistice reached "the million mark." This excludes houses built, independently of the inducement of any subsidy, since the end of the first quarter of the present year. The London County Council is getting on with a gigantic scheme in the Edgware district, and other authorities, large and small, have expended, altogether, hundreds of millions sterling on houses and blocks of flats, and, though a work of such unprecedented character has brought its own problems, such as the real or alleged inability of some of the hitherto houseless to pay the economic rents of the houses or flats, the net result, taking a general view of the situation, is that the housing problem is well on the way to solution. Vast numbers of families whose homelessness, in the true sense, was not far short of a menace to the community, now enjoy comfortable accommodation at a fair rent and with a reasonable security of tenure.

### WELWYN GARDEN CITY.

**V**ERY aptly in connection with housing comes a note from Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley about Welwyn Garden City. This new "satellite town" just beyond the present outer-suburban area north of London, has, during its short existence been admirably managed. Real public service has been rendered by its promoters in the provision of first-rate houses at absolutely fair prices, and on terms that have been clearly defined and framed to meet the requirements of occupying owners whose means often have not permitted them to think of paying out and out for a house. It is a pleasure to testify, on the assurance of occupying owners whom we advised to go to Welwyn to live, to the excellence of the quality of the building of the houses, and the thoroughly candid and friendly manner in which eligible would-be occupiers have been met. Of equal importance is it to add that, having acquired accommodation at Welwyn Garden City, the applicants have been warm in their praise of the healthful character of the district and the economical housing which they have thus obtained. The directors of Welwyn Garden City, following their policy of increased development of the town, have retained as sole agents Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, who will have an office on the estate. The facilities for sport generally will be increased, particularly golf, football, cricket and tennis, and a swimming bath is to be constructed. The theatre, one of the finest outside London, will be opened very soon. Houses and sites are available and the company builds houses to suit tenants.

The Westminster lease of No. 38A, Park Lane, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The firm has sold, in conjunction with Messrs. Walters, a freehold property, Sunny Lodge, Maida Vale.

The auction of White Ness, Kingsgate, has been arranged to be held by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, in conjunction with Messrs. A. J. Tanton and Co., at Hanover Square, on January 24th. The property, adjoining the North Foreland golf course, comprises 12 acres of grounds and orchards, and a residence with a Georgian billiard-room. There are a bailiff's house and farm buildings, and the land possesses a frontage of 1,550ft. to good roads.

### FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION.

**U**PTON GROVE, Tetbury, in the heart of the Beaufort Hunt, has been privately sold by Messrs. Hampton and Sons, acting for Mr. F. N. Lloyd. The estate, 450 acres, includes a beautiful Elizabethan house which was carefully restored and enlarged a few years ago under the supervision of an architect.

The estate has been sold as a whole for occupation.

The late Mr. Godfrey Walter's Hampshire house and nearly 340 acres, called Malshanger, at Oakley, has been sold as a whole by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. The house is Georgian, and has decorative work, especially the mantelpieces, which are fine examples of the Adam influence. Among the seats in the neighbourhood are: Manydown Park, Tangier Park, Strathfield Saye, Hackwood Park, Kemsht House, Laverstoke Park, Wolvertown Park, Sherfield Manor, Tilney Manor, Herriard Park and Oakley Park.

Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock announce the sale by private treaty before the auction advertised for the 16th inst., of the residential property, Burleigh Court, Brimscombe, Stroud, a stone residence in the Georgian style, with garage, stabling, farmery, lodge, cottages and 41 acres.

Timber auctions by Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock include one of 2,785 timber trees standing in Linden Hill Wood, near Twyford, Berkshire. A large company of buyers attended, and, notwithstanding the fact that a good many of the trees were on the small side, every lot was quickly disposed of for £2,845. Beech made from 6½d. to 10d. per foot, oak up to 1s. 6d., and lime 1s. 1d.; and 619 small coppice trees on the Lambourn Place estate, Berkshire, mostly beech, realised 9½d. per foot, and fir 6½d. Every lot was sold.

Wolston Manor, the residence of the late Mr. C. W. Wilcox, is to be demolished. The building came under the hammer of Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock (under instructions from Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hoffgaard) in lots, and the beautiful walnut panelling of the drawing-room fetched £450.

Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock, have sold 70 acres, Finstall Park Farm, Bromsgrove. Eastgate, Tenterden, a Georgian residence with delightful old grounds of 7½ acres, adjoining Tenterden, until lately belonging to the late Sir James R. Mellor, has been disposed of by Messrs. Geering and Colyer, with whom Mr. A. H. Burtenshaw was associated.

Messrs. Geering and Colyer have sold the South Hill estate, Hastingleigh, near Wye, between Ashford and Canterbury, 305 acres, with a nice old Georgian residence, which until 1924 had been owned and farmed by the Sankey family for upwards of 100 years.

Newmarket training quarters, Bedford House, belonging to Captain P. W. Bewicke, are in the market, including the freehold house, stabling for forty-eight horses, and a paddock of several acres.

Sales of Sussex properties announced by Mr. Raymond Beaumont include Clayton Priory, 100 acres at Hassocks, and Hurstwood House, 20 acres, in Wivelsfield.

It is stated by Messrs. Davey and Co., Limited, that they have, in conjunction with Messrs. Whatley and Co., sold by private treaty Vancelletes Farm, Willesley, Weston-birt, 130 acres.

### THE DEVONSHIRE HOLLANDS.

**B**EFORE the auction Messrs. Connole, Riccard and Green have sold Wear House, Countess Wear, Exeter, a residence with five reception rooms, seventeen bed and dressing rooms, cottages, stabling, garage, lake and 134 acres. The Manor of Wear Park, anciently called Heniton, Hineton or Honiton Siege, belonged in the reign of Henry III to the family of Buckenton and afterwards to that of Bathe, and from the last it passed by female heirs to Medsted and Holland. John Holland, who first settled at Wear, was a younger son of Robert, Lord Holland, and brother of Sir Thomas Holland, ancestor of the Dukes of Exeter. The place continued to be the seat of this younger branch of the Hollands till after the middle of the seventeenth century. It was subsequently purchased by Sir John Duckworth, Bt., who greatly improved the house. The land will be acquired by the Exeter Golf Club. The firm has sold Feniton Court, East Devon, a country residence with 93 acres; Lawell House, Chudleigh, part of the Clifford estate; Exbourne Manor, Exbourne; The Haven, Bishopsteignton; Spestos Grange, Bow; and Ebblerly House, Beaford, for Lord Seymour.

A William and Mary house in Romney Street, Westminster Abbey, freehold, has been sold by Messrs. Saunders and Goltmick. It

is one of the few remaining examples of or about that period.

In the quiet and still rural suburb of Totteridge is The Old House, on the Green, very old and well preserved, in delightful old gardens of 4 acres. Messrs. Sturt and Tivendale announce its sale by private treaty. Following the transfer of the leasehold interest the freehold of No. 57, Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead Heath, has changed hands through Messrs. Goldschmidt and Howland. Many of the houses in this wide and handsome avenue are being converted into flats. Some of the large houses in the neighbouring Arkwright Road area are falling into use as offices. The residential occupation of the bulk of the properties is, however, the rule.

For the fabric of Sudbrook Holm, a mansion near Lincoln, built in 1777, an offer of £1,000 has been accepted for demolition. Messrs. Perry and Phillips obtained £95 a pair for wrought-iron gates at two of the garden entrances.

### INGMIRE HALL: ANOTHER AUCTION.

**S**EDBERGH and District Angling Association has purchased nearly two miles of the Ingmire fishings in the river Rattwey; a Kendal buyer has taken much of the timber, and minor lots of land have changed hands as the result of an auction at Sedbergh a few days ago by Messrs. Thornborrow and Co., the realisations approximating to £6,500, but the Hall was left at the "upset" price of £4,000. It was in the early summer that the late Sir Harwood Banner's executors decided to have Ingmire Hall brought under the hammer at Kendal by Messrs. Thornborrow and Co. It then comprised moors and sporting rights over thousands of acres of fells, and two miles of salmon fishing. It is the Royalist stronghold which was in the market just five years ago, when Major John H. Upton placed it in the hands of Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley for realisation. That firm dealt successfully with 8,000 acres. Ingmire, long ago the ancestral home of John Otway, the celebrated Royalist, lies on the very edge of the West Riding of Yorkshire, close to where the main road and the railway wind northwards from Sedbergh into Westmorland, through the wildly mountainous country up to the Border. The estate originally included a sixteenth century castellated manor house, grazing farms, and grouse moors on Howgill and Cautley Fells. The pheasant shooting is good, and there is trout and salmon fishing in the Lune and Rattwey, which bound and intersect the property. Ingmire was in the hands of the Upton family for centuries. John Otway, according to the register of the school in Sedbergh, after ejection from St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1643, for refusing the oath and covenant, joined the King's forces and "did not show less courage in the field that he had in the University." He helped Charles II and received a knighthood from him. If his spirit revisits the glimpses of the moon, let us hope he has no news of the gradual break-up of the family domain.

Messrs. Constable and Maude's list of town transactions is an imposing one, including a house in Berkeley Square, in conjunction with Messrs. Duncan B. Gray and Partners; as well as such investments as a block of premises at the Marble Arch, in the resale of which the firm was associated with Messrs. Yates and Yates and Messrs. Folkard and Hayward; and, last but not least, a Queen Anne house in Kensington Square; and one of the nice houses in Justice Walk, Chelsea.

Two acres for £3,125, sold under the hammer—that is the result of the auction, held by Messrs. Daniel Smith, Oakley and Garrard, by order of the L.M.S. Railway of building land near Mill Hill station.

Sales by Messrs. Watkin and Watkin of freehold properties, including the following, are reported this week: Harrowsley, Dorking, a modern residence; an old Tudor house, Maggie Cottage, Nutfield; the residential property with lodge and grounds, The Grange, Horley (in conjunction with Messrs. Garland-Smith and Co.); and a residential property, Undercraft, Reigate.

Messrs. Fox and Sons have sold Hill Farm, Fontmell Magna, 329 acres; and seven sites on the Highcliffe Castle estate, the latter for Major-General the Hon. E. J. M. Stuart-Wortley.

ARBITER.



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## ON MOTORING ABROAD

**A**MONG numerous motoring subjects of international interest discussed at the recent Motor Transport Congress held in London, that of international touring occupied a prominent place. The custom of motorists taking their cars across frontiers and even across oceans to explore the highways of distant lands is rapidly growing, and the somewhat natural idea that the practice is limited to motorists living in and visiting the western corner of Europe is quite erroneous. Many American visitors to Great Britain bring their cars with them, and in some cases take them back again, and though it is rare to hear of an English tourist taking his car across the Atlantic, there is a decided tendency towards the shipping of privately-owned cars for holiday tours into Mediterranean lands, while numerous Englishmen domiciled in India come home to buy their cars, which they take back with them. This, of course, is hardly international touring in the ordinary sense, but comes under the head of the definite importation of cars into foreign countries, though special arrangements are generally made in view of the fact that the cars when taken from England are no longer new and therefore escape payment of full import duty.

At the congress where, when this subject was under discussion, Lord Birkenhead was the principal speaker, the way was paved towards the clearing away of certain difficulties that still exist, but those difficulties are indeed small by comparison with those that the R.A.C. had to tackle when inaugurating the triptyque system twenty-five years ago. Before 1902 a motorist bold enough to venture abroad with his car had to be prepared to pay a cash Customs deposit at every frontier he crossed, and if that necessity had never been removed foreign motor touring would have remained the extremely expensive pastime of the very few. Theoretically, the Customs deposits paid were recoverable but anyone who even to-day has attempted to recover from a foreign Customs office money paid in excess or for a temporary importation will readily understand what chance the average tourist had of regaining his due.

At present the bulk of the difficulties that the foreign-going motorist has to overcome, provided he keeps to what may be called the regular foreign touring grounds, are difficulties concerning his own personal papers rather than formalities in connection with the car. As the result of the deliberations and recommendations of the congress some hope is held that these remaining obstacles will in due course be removed or at least reduced to positions of no importance, while an extension of facilities to visitors bringing cars as regards payment or partial exclusion from motor taxes in the lands visited is also expected.

Rather surprisingly among all the topics connected with foreign touring discussed at the congress no mention seems to have been made of what the average motor tourist considers his greatest grievance, the high charges made for the

transport of cars on the more popular routes. While from one point of view it is easy to understand the desire of the shipping companies to make hay while the sun shines and to get as much money as possible from those who, presumably, can afford to pay, there are limits, and those limits are very nearly reached in the prices charged for shipping cars across the English Channel. Where such a monopoly of service exists any real improvement for the benefit of the traveller is unlikely, and it is, of course, no argument to urge that a reduction of rates would mean more business for the shipping companies in view of the fact that any increase in this business is probably not desired. It is improbable that the shipping of cars across the Channel will ever attain such dimensions as to justify the use of special boats for the work, but it is quite common at the busy season of the year for the regular cross-Channel steamers to have all their car berths occupied and booked ahead.

It is well that motorists contemplating a trip on the other side of the water should realise that, provided they are not determined to land in France, they may economise considerably on their car fares. Some of the steamship lines not so popular for car transport on account of their longer routes offer much more attractive rates, and motorists seizing the advantage are led into explorations of countries such as Holland and Belgium on the way down to France which do not in themselves offer sufficient attractions as motoring territories to justify the sea crossing for them alone.

### TO TAKE OR TO HIRE THE CAR?

It is doubtless in large measure due to this high cost of direct cross-Channel transport that many motorists are considering whether they might not do better by hiring a car on landing in France than by taking their own across with them. The practice is certainly growing, and at least one firm, Messrs. Donnet Motors, Limited, is prepared to make all arrangements, either in London or Paris, for the hire of a car by the visitor to France.

Anyone contemplating a visit to France and desiring the use of a car to drive himself while he is there, a car that for all practical purposes is his own for as long as he requires it, may either fix up all details in Albemarle Street to find the car awaiting him in Paris, or he may wait until he gets to Paris and make his arrangements on the spot at 11, Place de la Porte Champeret. In either case the charges and conditions are the same.

The charges range from 1,300 francs a week (seven full days) for a 10 h.p. four-seater or two-seater coupé car to 1,850 francs for a 14 h.p. six-seater saloon, the respective monthly charges (thirty days) being 4,400 and 6,600 francs. These prices include full insurance, and they are subject to a reduction of 15 per cent. for holders of French driving licences obtained at least six months prior to the date of the hire. All hirers must hold a French driving licence, which is obtainable within forty-eight hours and, we are

informed, may, if required, be obtained for the hirer by Messrs. Donnet Motors, Limited, before he leaves London so that he may have it ready for use on his arrival in Paris.

There are no restrictions on the use to which the car is put in France nor on where it is taken—it may be used for "going foreign" from France—and, of course, the mileage covered with it is unlimited. One condition that must be satisfied in the ordinary course of things is that the car shall be picked up in Paris, though it is possible that special arrangements might be made, at a price, for a hirer who wished the car to meet him as he landed off the boat.

For anyone who wanted a short motoring holiday in France, as, for instance, a week's exploration round the environs of Paris with perhaps an excursion into the battlefields or through the châteaux country of the Loire, this seems an excellent scheme. For such a short visit the cost and trouble of taking one's own car from England would generally be regarded as prohibitive or at least not worth while, and there is, of course, the important consideration that one's own car escapes the buffeting that French roads give. For longer periods taking one's own car would seem to be the more economical proposition, assuming it to be of approximately the same power and seating capacity as the Donnet that would be hired. The maintenance of either the hired or one's own car is, of course, a constant factor; the driver buys his own fuel and oil and pays his garage bills, but in the event of mechanical trouble or accident he would certainly be better off with the hired car, having resources for its repair comparatively near and being free from the risk that always dogs the foreign tourist of having to come home and leave his car behind while it is repaired and then to incur the cost of another outward journey to bring it home or foot a heavy bill for someone else to do it for him.

### VEHICLE LIGHTING.

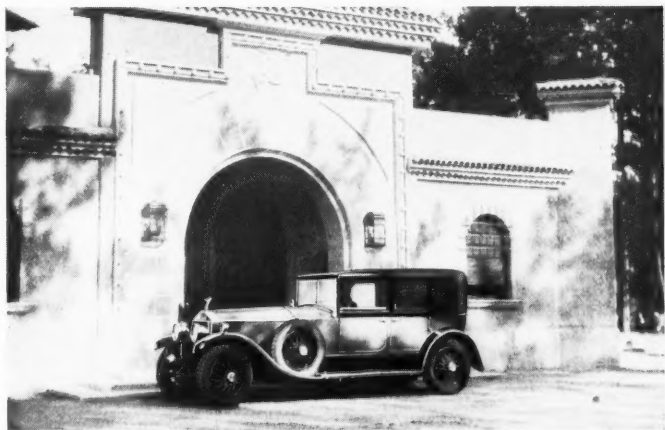
**T**HE Lights on Vehicles Bill was introduced primarily to codify existing laws and regulations on the subject and to eliminate the numerous anomalies that existed. Few measures introduced within recent times could fail in their main object more completely.

One of the most urgent requirements was to remove the absurdity that required a motor car to carry two lights pointing forward and showing the overall width of the vehicle in some districts but not in others. All that the law of the land demanded in the way of the forward lighting of motor vehicles was that they should carry one white light on the extreme off side, but there were many local by-laws that required the showing of two white lights to indicate the over-all width of the vehicle. Partly because of this and of the impossibility of knowing just what was necessary in any particular county through which one might be travelling, but more because of the practical simplicity and utility of having two



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AN OWNER'S OPINION  
REPRINTED FROM THE  
*AUTOCAR*  
of September 17th, 1927

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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.		H.M. THE KING OF SWEDEN.	
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white lights, all motorists have long made a habit of showing two side lamps, and most of them have done so almost subconsciously—merely because two lamps were provided by the car manufacturer and went on together when one switch was operated.

The clause in the Bill that required all two-track vehicles except those pushed by hand, such as the coster's barrow, to show two forward lights to indicate the over-all width, was a generally welcomed clause, and was certainly the most useful of the whole Bill. But now it seems likely to be one of the very few clauses that will not finally become law, for a concession to agricultural interests has excused horse-drawn vehicles engaged in agriculture from carrying two lights and permits them to carry nothing but the old off-side light only. Thus the whole idea supposed to have been responsible for the measure, that of securing uniformity, has gone by the board and little remains to justify it.

Another extremely unsatisfactory clause is that which imposes the need for rear lamps on motor-cycles but not on pedal cycles. Once again, to be effective, the Bill ought to have been consistent, but here it requires the one vehicle on the road that least needs a rear lamp, because it occupies a minimum of road space and is least often overtaken, to carry this index of its presence, while the pedal cycle, which of all is most often overtaken, is excused with a reflector. The natural argument appears to be that either motor cyclists could be let off with reflectors or that cyclists should be required to carry red rear lamps.

A stipulation is made that, to be acceptable, the rear reflector must be efficient, but by what standards efficiency may be judged is left to the imagination. Only when a car or other vehicle is available to show its lights on to a cyclist ahead will a policeman be able to judge if the reflector on the cycle is "efficient," and its apparent efficiency must depend in large measure on the strength of the light shining on to it.

A real opportunity to eliminate some of the worst dangers of our roads has been missed, and no step has been taken that will in any way tend to mitigate the dazzling head lamp danger. So long as unlighted obstructions are permitted with reflectors that depend for their value on being illuminated by powerful lamps the motorist will be not merely induced but forced to use powerful head lamps, and so long as some vehicles are allowed on the roads with only one forward light there is no sort of the much desired uniformity that would have been so valuable. As it stands, vehicle lighting remains in a chaotic condition, and before long further reform will be necessary.

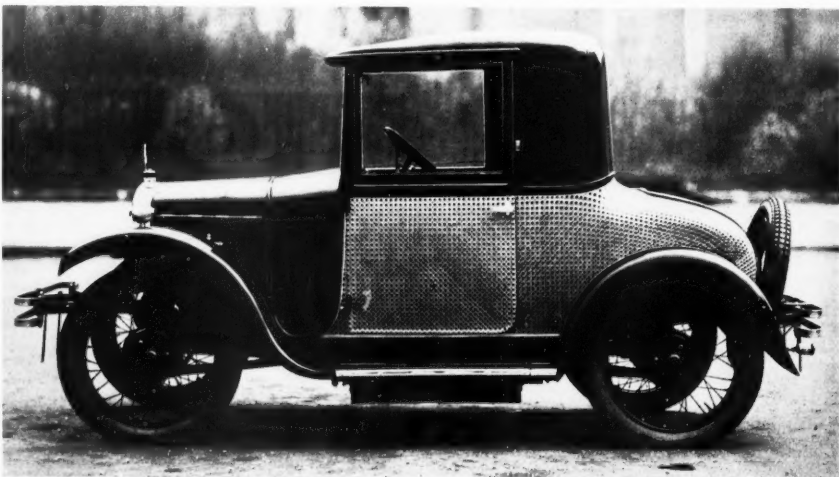
#### REMARKABLE ENDURANCE OF CAR AND DRIVERS.

THE record-breaking performance of the Hon. Victor and Mrs. Bruce, with the assistance of Mr. J. A. Joyce, on the Montlhery Track, Paris, ranks as the greatest achievement of motoring endurance after the Court-Treath Cape to Cairo expedition. Driven continuously for nine days and nights, the six-cylinder A.C. car covered no less than 15,000 miles at an average speed of 68 m.p.h., but this speed figure, arrived at by taking the distance covered and the elapsed time from start to finish, does not, of course, give an accurate idea of the normal running speed of the car, which cannot have been far removed from 85 m.p.h. Besides stops for changes of drivers and replenishments, Mr. Bruce had a skid that overturned the car and caused a delay of some twenty hours, only just failing to put an end to both driver and car for all time.

This record breaks the previous best for the distance by no less than 12 m.p.h., and it is significant that that previous best was obtained by another British woman driver at the wheel of another British car on a foreign track. But the recent record differs from the previous in that Miss Cordery had a much larger team of drivers for her Invicta car, so that the effort of the individual drivers was incomparably less than that of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, and the Invicta performance was put up under much more favourable weather conditions. For that previous record the Dewar Trophy was awarded, but no such award will be possible in this instance as the run was not observed by the R.A.C. but by the Automobile Club de France.

#### AN AUSTIN SEVEN FOR PALM BEACH.

THE capabilities of the very small car have often been set forth and demonstrated in a manner to convince the most sceptical, and it is not long ago that there appeared in these pages a most interesting record of the behaviour of an Austin Seven over a distance of more than 10,000 miles in the hands of a private owner. The Austin Seven is one of the oldest and most popular of very small cars, and this



AN INTERESTING AUSTIN SEVEN COUPE FOR AMERICA.

private owner's extended experience, together with the remarkable achievements of the car in competitive and speed events, go a long way towards explaining its almost unique position. Extreme handiness, a lively character and ample speed on the road, combined with a high degree of reliability, have secured for what might once have been regarded as a toy, acceptance as a vehicle of real practical utility and value as a pure pleasure conveyance.

In addition to these eminently desirable assets as a "sole possession" car, the little Austin has a special appeal for the owner of one or more big cars for use as a tender, in which capacity it is being extensively employed both at home and abroad. The economical "runabout" is becoming an essential member of every well stocked country house garage.

Recognition of its worth has long spread to remote corners of the world, and some striking performances stand to its credit in New Zealand, while further evidence of the soundness of the chassis is afforded by its extensive mounting with special bodywork by some of the prominent coachbuilders. A combination of these two testimonies is seen in the coupé car illustrated, which has been bodied by Maythorns to the order of Mr. Pulitzer, the American newspaper proprietor, for the use of his children at Palm Beach, Florida.

Both the design and the cane finish of the body are interesting, the cane finish being seldom seen in England, though popular on the Continent; while "gadget" suggestions of usual American practice are the bumpers fore and aft.

#### ARE NEW MODELS WANTED?

IN producing motor cars there are two methods which may be adopted. One is to build a car for a season and entirely redesign it for the next year. The alternative is to build the best possible chassis and produce it year after year with just the minor alterations and improvements that experience dictates. Which of these two policies is the better from the car-user's point of view? In the former case, "last" year's model is out of date and depreciates in value accordingly. Its appearance labels it in many cases, and spares are more likely to be hard to obtain. If the alternative is adopted, each vehicle can be kept more or less up to date by the owner, because such additions or improvements as are made are designed to replace the original feature and involve no structural alterations. Thus, the true value of the vehicle depends, not on when it was first made, but on its present condition and on the improvements which have been incorporated. This state of affairs is more

favourable to maker and user alike, for the former can concentrate his energies on production and standardise the majority of the components of his car, while the user can purchase the machine in the full knowledge that at the end of twelve months it will not be a "back number" and that very little will be required to bring it up to date, ensuring a good selling price.

To get down to actual facts, the "fresh model each year" policy is observed by the large majority of our English makers: in fact, only one car, and that an American, is, to the knowledge of the writer, made on the permanent design basis. In these days of low production and high cost it would, perhaps, be as well to direct the attention of other makers to the advantages of the method for the benefit of all concerned.

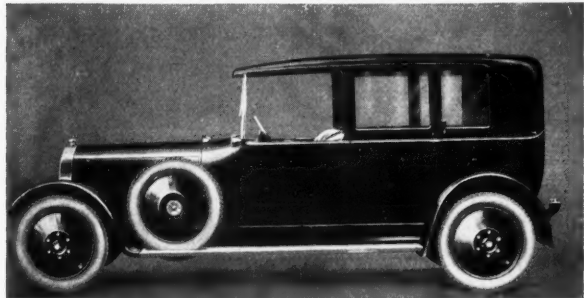
*Breakdowns on the Road.*—For the first time since the service was started, the number of cases dealt with under the R.A.C. "Get You Home" Service in one month has exceeded four figures: the actual number recently being 946 cars and 200 motor cycles, a total of 1,146. While this "record" is, in the main, due to the very large increase in the associate membership of the R.A.C., it is proof also that neither cars nor motor cycles are yet absolutely reliable, and shows the necessity, therefore, for taking precautions against being stranded by the roadside as a result of a breakdown or accident.





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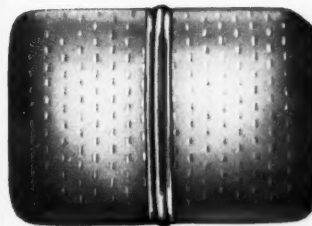


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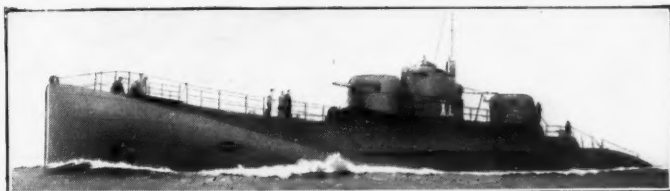
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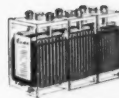
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## PHEASANTS AND PARASITES.—II

WHEN we deal with some fourteen kinds of worms which are known to afflict pheasants, the first problem we encounter is our lack of knowledge of the life cycles of these worms and any real details of their capacities for harm. Some of these parasites can probably be written off as innocuous or not present in sufficient numbers to be an active enemy. Yet when we come across birds which have proved to be, in the expressive language of the keepers, "bad doers," investigation usually discloses a rather heavy infestation. We may assume that the worms produce the condition, the balance of evidence points that way, but we cannot exclude the possibility that other causes, such as weakness due to malnutrition, may perhaps be specially favourable conditions for these parasites, and that their multiplication in a sickly bird is only part of the chain of circumstance. From the worm's point of view, multiplication and the preservation of its species are the end objects of its existence. The worms may, in a sense, be responsive to the approaching decay of the host, and their excessive multiplication may be due to a particular response to their environment and in obedience to some natural law whose existence we may surmise but cannot yet prove.

We note something of this kind in regard to partridges. When weakened by lack of food or bad climatic conditions we find worms not customarily present in the healthy bird. Whether it is a cause of disease or an incident of disease is still not clear. Only serious methodical work, involving post mortems on many game birds at different times of the year, is likely to put us on the right track. The question is an important one, for besides *Heterakis Gallinæ* and the *Choanotania infundibulum* mentioned in the previous article, we have some of the *Davainia* tapeworms similar to those found in grouse. Of these *D. Friedbergi* is undoubtedly the worst, but in this case there are suggestions that the infestation is largely seasonal.

The situation is, at the moment, admittedly unsatisfactory. Pheasants are expensive birds, and there is an enormous amount still to be found out about them and their troubles. The upshot of the investigation now set on foot may in due course be useful to the partridge problem too; but the pheasant is far more accessible and convenient material for research, because it is amenable to control, to experiment and to observation. It is problematical whether the factors which affect the partridge will be found to be matters which we can cure or control, but it is quite possible that we shall find far surer guidance on the feeding of hand-reared partridges.

The questions the research work is likely to decide are those in which we are at present guided by rule of thumb or experience. It is not always safe to trust to this. In the first place, our traditional feeding system is manifestly wrong in many respects; on the other hand, our insistence on lime as a soil disinfectant is more than abundantly justified. In fact, lime undoubtedly plays a far more important part in the cycle of pheasant rearing than this simple rôle of the correction of soil acidity and the elimination of parasites.

In the usual way an old pheasant of two or three years' growth will contain a rather more assorted worm population than the usual yearling cock, but it is doubtful if a long enough series of normal or healthy, as distinct from abnormal or diseased, birds have yet been critically examined for a normal condition to be really determined. It is evident that a line must be drawn somewhere, but at the moment it is by no means certain where it can be drawn. These are matters which will be solved in time, but they cannot be hurried, for the all-sufficient reason that work of this kind takes a great deal of time and requires a great deal of material as well as hard work.

In practice, we find that the adult pheasant can tolerate a fair crop of worms without obvious ill-effect, but the pheasant chick is a very different case. In chicks a relatively low infestation with worm causes trouble. Chicks have little reserve, and any irritation of the intestinal tract leads to diarrhoea and malnutrition, and the birds weaken and die.

One of the first points which requires to be cleared up is the matter of seasonal infestation. In some birds a particular parasite will be found in the summer months which more or less disappears later on in the season. A few survivors seem to hang on, mainly in older birds, and these may be the carriers most largely responsible for the next year's re-infestation. The pheasant, however, represents a rather particularised problem in the transmission of some bird diseases, for every year we do our best to shoot down the cocks, and the percentage of old cock birds is, presumably, far, far lower than that of any wild bird, such as grouse or partridge. This in itself reduces the hazards of transmitted infection of certain avian diseases, such as B.W.D., to a very marked extent, and the practice of shooting cocks as low as possible at the end of the season is probably the soundest possible policy from the point of view of clean stock.

From the point of view of the pheasant rearer the practical issue is to avoid sources of potential worm contamination. Cleanliness will discourage the house fly. Measures may be necessary to clear ground of earthworms, which are suspect not so much for acting as secondary hosts, but for digging up from below the resting stages of parasite diseases, such as

coccidiosis and, possibly, gapes. A careful survey of pheasant diseases and the present state of knowledge about them disclose an enormous amount of work to be done before we can get the necessary knowledge which will benefit not only the pheasant rearer, but the poultry farmer. One fact seems to be established. A large proportion of the pests which infect pheasants have a natural home in the turkey, and ground which has been used by turkeys, or to a lesser degree guinea fowl, is four or five times as likely to be infected with potential pheasant diseases as any other.

HUGH POLLARD.

## THE CORNCRAKE

IF there were a "Maskelyne and Devant" representative in the ornithological world, the corncrake is certainly the bird which would be produced to demonstrate mystification. Ventriloquist, contortionist and simulator of death. These are a few of the accomplishments that are attributed to "Créx Créx"—even its onomatopœtic nomenclature has a ghostly suggestion, which is completed by the "Order" classification of *Gruiformes*!

Although the ventriloquising power of the corncrake is probably exaggerated—owing to its ability to move swiftly and unseen from place to place—I am, personally, convinced that the bird can, to a certain extent, perform ventriloquism, for I have seen "créx créx" on a meadow, while its call apparently came from an adjoining clover field—and an immediate search of the latter with a keen-nosed dog failed to reveal any signs of the presence, or passing, of another corncrake.

As a contortionist, this "rail" is most convincing. When it is moving about the corncrake has the appearance of an ordinary bird—not unlike a partly grown partridge—but when suspicious, or looking over the top of the surrounding herbage, it resembles the shape of a small champagne bottle—for it stands in a perpendicular position and stretches straight up the elongated neck.

The corncrake depends on fleetness of foot—and its ability to penetrate swiftly the thickest herbage with its wedge-shaped body—to escape the presence of enemies, and when compelled to take to the wing it flies in a most clumsy fashion with the hindmost part of the body depressed and dangling legs. And yet, in spite of this apparent impotence in flight, it is a migratory bird and covers long distances in its migration.

When unable to fly (it is a bird that is very liable to be winged when shot at) and escape cannot be effected by pedestrian effort—for it emits a strong scent, which is very attractive to a questing retriever—there is still another artifice that may be attempted by the frightened corncrake. It will feign death. I have only once seen this simulation. My dog had retrieved an apparently dead corncrake, and the bird was laid on the ground. I moved away from the place to pick up a hare which I had shot with my second barrel and, happening to look back, saw, to my amazement, the corncrake running away. When the bird had been again recovered by my retriever, I found that it was quite unharmed except for a wounded wing. This tendency to assume a state of coma (which is possibly involuntary and the result of terror) may account for the belief—which was, at one time, widely held—that the corncrake will sometimes hibernate, and remain in England during the winter months, concealed in walls, outhouses and other warm corners.

I have certainly seen one of these birds in Hampshire at Christmas time, but this was probably a previously wounded bird which had been unable to emigrate, for it was caught by my retriever as it fluttered along a foot or two off the ground and had not on that occasion been shot at.

But in support of the theory that "créx créx" may lie up for the winter in warm corners I must describe the curious behaviour of a corncrake at the end of November in 1921. I was in my garden when I noticed a corncrake running about on a lawn near the house. Keeping quite still and being partially hidden by a hedge, I watched the bird to see what it would do. To my surprise it approached an open French window and entered the room to which the window gave access. After a few seconds it came out again, but remained in the vicinity, made repeated approaches to the window, and twice more entered the room. As a high wall surrounded this particular corner of the garden, I came to the conclusion that the bird was unable to fly and was seeking an outlet through the window. But when I approached with the intention of catching the corncrake, it rose almost perpendicularly and flew with facility over the 10ft. high wall.

With regard to the shooting of the corncrake, "Stonehenge" writes: "they are only fit for the sport and amusement of schoolboys"! His statement that "they are oily for the table" is contrary to my own opinion, for I consider that this bird, when properly cooked, is the best of all game.

The corncrake is, unfortunately, becoming scarcer every year, for we may, nowadays, shoot through the whole of September without seeing "créx créx" in the bag. Whereas, in 1905, a party killed 26½ couple in one day near Purbeck; and in 1880, we are told, "211 landrails were shot at Acryse Park, Folkestone, and 35 birds in one day by two guns." MIDDLE WALLOP.



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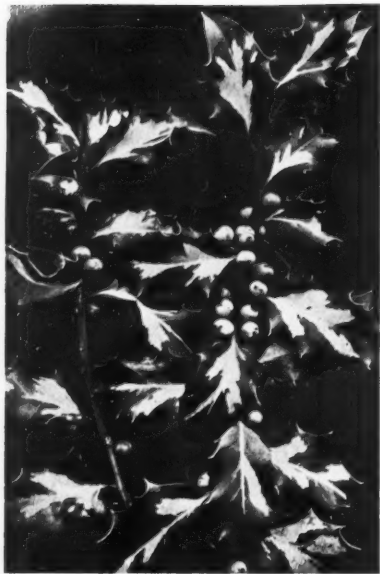
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## HOLLIES FOR CHRISTMAS

*Evergreen foliage and berry have long been associated with the festive season of Christmas. Among evergreen trees and shrubs the holly is the only one that conveys the atmosphere of home. It adds to the beautiful sheen of its varnished, toothed leaves the attraction of its rich scarlet berries so valuable for decoration either indoors or in the garden. There are many species, all with admirable qualities to commend them to every garden lover.*



A WELL-BERRIED SPRAY OF ILEX  
WILSONI.

THE common holly and other species, together with the many fine hybrids or sports, form one of the finest groups of evergreens for garden or other planting in this country.

Ilex Aquifolium, or the common holly, is native in Europe and is found wild in many parts of the British Isles. It attains a height of 70ft. or 80ft. Usually, where of this size, it is found in forest form, growing among timber trees and holding its own as such. The wood or timber of holly is very light in colour, very hard and durable, being specially used for turning and inlaying, and was formerly used in building construction as beams. The young straight growths were at one time largely used for whips and walking sticks, and the gipsies in the New Forest often offered those for sale.

The large-leaved hollies, about which there seems some confusion, probably originated as natural hybrids from I. Aquifolium, I. balearica and I. madeirensis. I. platyphylla may be distinct, but it is quite likely only a variation of the common type. All are capable of inter-breeding, and hence there are now many fine forms of big-leaved hollies.

These are a grand set of hollies for specimen planting, or for grouping where evergreen effect is desired. There is a very fine holly native of Japan, I. latifolia, somewhat tender in the colder parts of this country, but when well grown is a grand evergreen. I know a plant growing on a house where it is often confused with a Magnolia grandiflora, and, were it not for the fruit upon it, one might easily pass it as such. This holly may be responsible for many of the charming broad-leaved forms and varieties that are met with to-day.

The holly is, in my opinion, the plant above all others for hedging. It can be used as an outside boundary fence, and, if planted with care and looked after properly, soon becomes a fine hedge. It is protective in two senses: it keeps out cattle and children, and is a wonderful wind break. In planting a holly hedge, it is necessary to do the ground well, both in digging and also by the addition of some well decayed manure mixed up with the soil before planting.

For young hollies up to, say, 3ft., a trench, 3ft. to 4ft. wide, should be thoroughly broken up, and, if on stiff soil, provision for good drainage should be made. Manure can then be mixed with the soil, and the plants properly aligned and filled in, care being taken to see the plants well trodden in so that they are really firm and not liable to blow about before taking root. The same

treatment is required for larger hollies, only the preparation must be in accordance with the size of the roots: for a hedge 10ft. in height a trench at least 6ft. in width should be broken up. This allows for quick, easy root action to begin with, and by the time the roots have filled this prepared trench they will be strong enough to push farther as they require. I know it is not usual to plant such large plants to begin with, but occasionally I have been asked to do so, where it is desired to effect an immediate screen, and I recollect on one occasion planting over one hundred plants 12ft. in height which, after two years in their new position, looked as if they had been there twenty or thirty years.

Curiously, I find larger hollies move more easily than small, always provided they have been subject to frequent transplantings as they grew up. If planting is in springtime and weather conditions become dry, copious spraying overhead after sunset will be found the most effective way to water.

By the way, this reminds me of some advice I had many years ago on the subject of watering newly planted evergreens, from one of our old foremen. I was busy giving some shrubs a good

soaking at the roots when the old man looked over the gate. Said he: "Beg your pardon, sir, where does the rain come from? Try to imitate that, sir, and spray them over the top. Keep your plants with their leaders up straight and the roots will look after themselves!"

Many people complain of failure when planting hollies, and it is said they should be planted only at certain seasons of the year. Now my own experience is that, if you are dealing with badly rooted plants, such as have been standing too long and have become coarsely rooted, failing to hold soil when lifted, it is necessary not only to choose the right month, but even the right day, as no plant will fail more quickly when it makes up its mind to go. On the other hand, I have planted, quite successfully, thousands of hollies for hedges, and hundreds of specimen plants in all months of the winter, so long as there was no frost.

I will quote an instance of one hedge, planted in the Midlands in a very wind-swept position, which took 2,000 plants some 2½ft. in height, and, contrary to the opinion of local experts, who criticised severely, only eleven plants failed, and several of these could be directly traced to damage done by workmen on the



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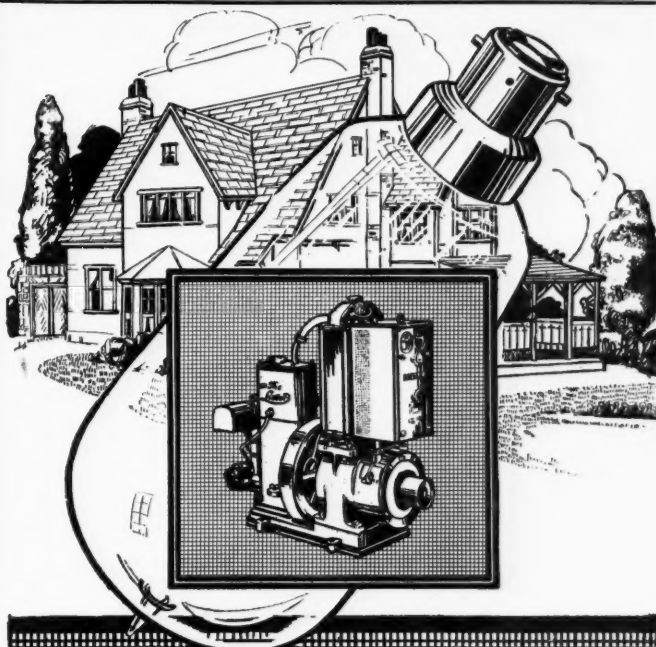
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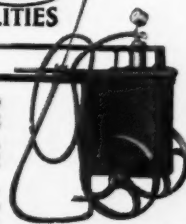
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estate walking through them and thoroughly disturbing the roots.

The month in this case was February. I could quote many other cases, but this should suffice, and my view is that, if you have a properly grown, frequently transplanted holly which will have only small fibrous roots and will hold a ball of earth, big or little, as the case may be, then you can plant holly pretty much as any other evergreen. Great care should be taken not to expose the roots to frost.

For garden planting, holly is of great use, not only when planted as single specimens, but in groups. The many different types of the hybrids give us a great variety in foliage and also in habit of growth which help to obtain excellent effects. For example, contrast a common holly of 50ft. or 60ft. with such as *I. cornuta*, *I. crenata* or Waterer's compact forms, either green or golden variegated. For convenience there is a list of good hollies for garden use classified as tall-growing, medium and small or compact, which will be found at the end of this article.

There is a very useful place in many gardens where the holly serves better, perhaps, than any other plant, and that is where a group of plants is required to hide outbuildings or to divide



A SMALL STANDARD TREE OF THE VARIEGATED ILEX  
AQUIFOLIUM REGINA NIGRA.

front and back entrances. Where space is limited, holly can be planted and, by the proper use of the knife, be kept in bounds without showing the necessary pruning sufficiently to spoil their character. For the proper attainment of this, use the knife and not the shears. A collection of hollies planted as single specimens with sufficient room to grow to their full dimensions, such as the holly walk at Kew, cannot fail to impress the true lover of trees and shrubs, the many tints in foliage and the lovely berries adding a special charm to the garden during the duller months of the year. Another use for the holly is its suitability for woodland planting, and all the green forms are at home in open woodland planting; while the common holly will be found to thrive in dense shade as an undergrowth, and is especially valuable as an outside wind screen in a woodland garden used for the growth of tender plants, which in such positions appreciate greatly the exclusion of side draughts. It is also a fine plant as covert for game, although in a young state it must be protected from rabbits and hares. Woodcock are specially fond of the shelter of the plant.

One other good thing is to be said for the holly, and that is its power of resisting the evils of smoke. It is a valuable town evergreen and even thrives in very smoky atmospheres, such as Manchester and Birmingham. It is very useful in such districts, as few evergreens will fight against the impurities of the atmosphere of our larger manufacturing towns.

Apart from the evergreen forms, there is also a section of deciduous hollies, the chief beauty of which is their fruit. This section is unisexual, and in order to obtain fruit it is necessary to have plants of both sexes.

*Ilex verticillata* and *I. kevigata* are, perhaps, the best forms, and in autumn are a very attractive feature in the north-east of the United States, where they are native.

*I. Sieboldii*, a Japanese species little known in this country, is also very showy in fruit and should be a good garden plant.

The common holly has been used most generally for hedges, but there is no need to confine oneself to it, as I know several very good hedges of the variety generally known as *Shepherdii* or *Hodginsii*, a broad-leaved, handsome holly. In particular, there is one of this kind at Luton Hoo which has always looked well. For a dwarf hedge nothing could be better than *Ilex crenata*. This is a very attractive plant with a foliage not unlike myrtle, and is admirable for small hedges and can be kept almost as compact and solid as a wall. I suppose it is too slow growing to be in general demand as a hedge plant, but I recommend it strongly to anyone who is content to wait a time for its complete development. Like lots of slow-growing things, it will last, and one can feel that, as well as serving for the present, it will last for the future. I know hedges both of golden and silver hollies, but I deprecate their use for this purpose. I think that no variegated plant looks well as a hedge, save, perhaps, the golden yew, but in this case one has a definite gold, whereas the variegation in holly is only partial.

For specimen planting on lawns nothing is more beautiful than the weeping or pendulous forms. Of these there are the common green form, *Ilex Aquifolium pendula*, and those known as *Perry's Golden* and *Silver Weeping*; and there is also a form called the *Weeping Milkmaid* or *I. A. aurea medio-picta*. These weeping forms are usually grown as standards on a clean stem. In the course of a few years the pendulous growth will develop and eventually reach the ground. The green and silver forms fruit very freely, and the combination of this with the pendulous branches is most attractive. They also look very well when growing as bushes spreading over the ground to quite large dimensions.

The list of varieties given below represents the basis of a fine collection, and is not an exhaustive list of known varieties.

#### HOLLY SPECIES.

*Ilex Aquifolium spinosa*, the common holly.

- I. cornuta*, a Chinese species, dwarf in habit, seldom growing to more than 10ft. It is a handsome evergreen.
- I. crenata*, native of Japan, with small foliage. It is very dense in habit, with an extreme growth of root.
- I. crenata Fortunei* is a form of this, growing somewhat more strongly and with rather larger foliage.
- I. diphyrena*, the Himalayan Holly. An evergreen tree of some 40ft. I have found this to be delicate.
- I. Fargesii*, an evergreen native of China growing from 15ft. to 20ft. It has a curious foliage with long, narrow leaves unlike any other holly.
- I. latifolia*, from Japan, growing to 50ft. or 60ft. It is somewhat difficult in this country, but I have seen fine examples of it.
- I. opaca*, the American evergreen holly. Generally a slow growing plant here and not worth planting, save as a collector's plant.
- I. balearica* and *I. madeirensis* are fine bold evergreens of 30ft. or more, with handsome broad smooth foliage.
- I. Pernyi*, a Chinese species of 25ft. or 30ft. It is a handsome holly, with curious oblong-shaped leaves with one end running to a point with two long spines.

#### TALL-GROWING HOLLIES, INCLUDING THE COMMON HOLLY.

##### GREEN FORMS.

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| <i>Ilex Aquifolium fructu-luteo</i> .    | <i>Ilex camelliaefolia</i> |
| <i>I. balearica</i>                      | <i>I. Mundi</i>            |
| <i>I. madeirensis</i>                    | <i>I. Wilsoni</i>          |
| <i>I. Hodginsii</i> or <i>Shepherdii</i> | <i>I. domingtonensis</i> . |
| <i>I. altaclarensis</i>                  |                            |

##### VARIEGATED FORMS.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Ilex Aquifolium argentea marginata</i> | <i>Ilex Aquifolium aurea marginata</i> |
| <i>I. A. Regina nigra</i>                 | <i>I. A. flavescens</i> .              |

#### MEDIUM GROWTH HOLLIES.

##### GREEN FORMS.

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Ilex scotica</i> | <i>Ilex tortuosa</i> |
| <i>I. hastata</i>   | <i>I. ferox</i> .    |

##### VARIEGATED FORMS.

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Ilex var. Golden Queen</i> | <i>Ilex var. ferox aurea</i>     |
| <i>I. var. Golden King</i>    | <i>I. var. f. Silver Queen</i> . |
| <i>I. var. ferox argentea</i> |                                  |

#### COMPACT OR DWARF-GROWING FORMS.

##### GREEN VARIETIES.

- |                     |                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Ilex cornuta</i> | <i>Ilex recurva</i>            |
| <i>I. crenata</i>   | <i>I. Watererii compacta</i> . |

##### VARIEGATED FORMS.

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Ilex crenata aurea variegata</i> | <i>Ilex Waterer's Gold</i> . |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|

It seems to me that modern garden planting has a tendency to ignore the use of the grouping of fine evergreens, which give so much tone to a garden in the winter months, and are equally valuable for providing shelter, and particularly a wind break. Do not be afraid to plant a few hollies. They will become, in the course of time, a main feature of the garden.

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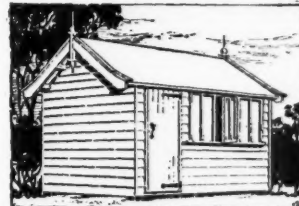
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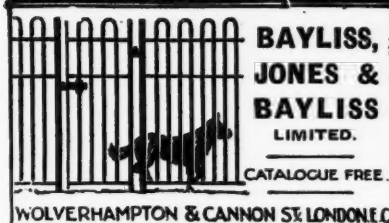
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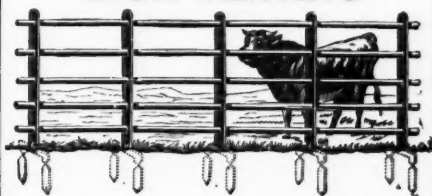


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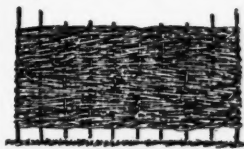
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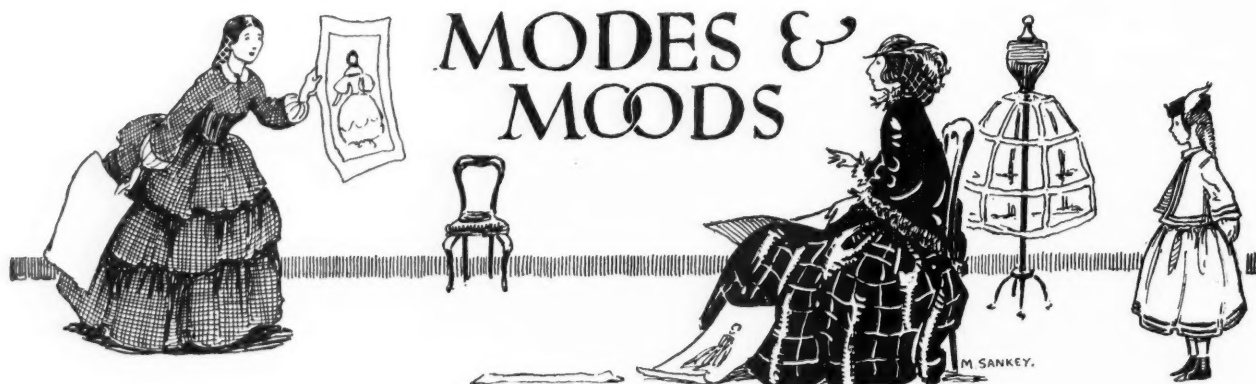
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IT is good to be a *débutante* and to find that whatever gown you slip into seems to make you look nicer than the last! At least that is what appears to be the case of the *débutante* of to-day, who has grown up like a flower, in clothes that have never tortured and restricted her figure, and with all the healthy out of door life that her grandmothers longed for in vain, and that her mothers enjoyed in moderation and subject to certain restrictions.

Besides which, *débutantes'* dance frocks are at the very apex of their beauty this year. They have grown a little longer—a little fuller, with a little more femininity and charm than they have had of late. And the result is quite irresistible. Once upon a time the *débutante* was restricted to white—hard and glistening white, which may or may not have suited her. To-day she can and does, go as she pleases in that respect, and as the style of all dresses made for her is calculated to enhance her youth, it does not matter very much what colour she chooses. Besides, the colour card is so immense and so varied this season that she would be curiously lacking in the dress instinct if she failed to find the right one to suit her.

It would be difficult to say which are the most fashionable colours for a young girl this winter, for the simple reason that so many of the new silks are shot—and therefore carry two or more distinct tones—and so many, also, are shaded from a very pale to a deep tint. It is, besides, equally difficult to say which a brunette or blonde should avoid, for, provided the *débutante* lacks a good skin—and it is only fair to add this want is very unusual and the perfect complexion has never been so general as it is to-day, in spite of the rouge and powder and lip-stick with which the modern girl seeks to paint the lily—a clever *couturière* can tone down a shade so subtly that a sallow skin looks like a magnolia flower at night, and a high colour is

softened as though by magic. Where one girl can wear a brilliant flame-coloured gown triumphantly, another can have it gradually shaded off to pale pink on the corsage, and the same with all tones of yellow, from orange to the faintest Maréchal Niel, so that everyone can be provided for satisfactorily.

This year the two softest and most beautiful materials where girls' frocks are concerned, *viz.*, tulle and chiffon, seem to have been given over almost exclusively to the young. For the most part these frocks are flounced to the waist, and for the girl who can wear it successfully there is nothing so lovely as a little gown of pure white tulle, the skirt of which is made in

a series of flounces, while the plain corsage is worked solid in a mass of mother of pearl paillettes. These paillettes are of different sizes and apparently of slightly different tones, one of the main ideas nowadays being to bring light and shade into the gowns.

The black evening dress is not usually associated with the *débutante*, but it is far from being ruled out of court this season, nevertheless. As a matter of fact, some girls, especially blondes, look extraordinarily well in black, and I have seen a fascinating dress for a *débutante* which was fashioned of black tulle and satin *beauté*, having a great patch of coloured silk flower-embroidery darned in blue and green and purple and rose on one side of the straight rucked corsage, while the same embroidery was repeated on the skirt, where it was half hidden, half revealed by the flounces which veiled it lightly. Any amount of embroidery seems to be permissible in this connection. Sometimes the big silk sash which is bunched on one side of the flounced skirt and hangs from it in a single long end, is embroidered in the most fascinating of little flower garlands and wreaths, carried out in baby ribbon, with diamond dewdrops tucked into the centre of the blossoms or showered over the petals. On a white taffetas gown shot



Amber-coloured tucked *crêpe-romain* with frills and handkerchief-scarf of the same material provides the charming frock on the left, while the right-hand figure wears velvet in two shades, with a chiffon hem in a still paler tone.



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with silver—which had a full skirt, ending in a transparent hem of silver tulle, which commenced just below the knees, and while bringing the skirt almost to the ankles, yet made it appear hardly longer than usual—the sash was wonderfully embroidered in silver grapes and vine leaves and ended in a deep fringe of beads like crystal stalactites. These dance frocks are all sleeveless, and as a girl's arms will generally pass muster, there is no need for the indefinite wings which add grace to many of the more dignified gowns for older women and, incidentally, conceal angularities or too generous proportions, although the little split-up cape of some transparent fabric is often seen.

Lace frocks are very popular, and there is no denying that lace stands a night of tireless dancing far better than tulle or chiffon, and is, consequently, distinctly economical wear. An apricot lace frock was made with one deep flounce and on this were sewn graduating bands of velvet ribbon in the same tone, which had the effect of narrow velvet flounces. The little lace corsage was gathered at the sides and down the centre, and outlined at the neck and armholes with mock topazes. Sometimes these coloured lace frocks are mounted over gold or silver tissue, but a



On the right is a charming frock of old blue chiffon velvet, with a cape yoke and bow of the palest rose chiffon, while the other figure wears a gown of hyacinth mauve taffetas, with chiffon yoke, a "market" bunch of violets tucked into the waist.

lighter effect is produced by a lining of chiffon or Georgette. A very effective scheme is that of picking out the pattern of the lace by means of tiny pin-head beads in the same colour or in crystal, and when this is the case the flounces can be dispensed with altogether, the intricate embroidered scheme being quite decorative enough in itself and only requiring a sash or bow at the side to complete a very charming effect. One sees, too, superposed "flounces" of crystal fringe on lovely little frocks of pure white crêpe de Chine embossed with velvet flowers, the vogue for crystal fringe being one which is more than likely to die hard.

There are a good many dance frocks for girls in scarlet chiffon this year, but this is always a colour which should only be chosen after careful thought, as it does not lend itself to shading down. A brunette may look charming in scarlet, but she must be of a vivid type, and in most cases she will find that flame colour, apricot, peach or shades of burnt orange are more becoming to her than a plain, undiluted lacquer red. Embroidered in Oriental style, or embossed with gold, scarlet is quite another matter, and there are numbers of these Oriental gowns which are almost invariably becoming to a dark girl as well as to many blondes.

K. M. BARROW.

## FROM A WOMAN'S NOTEBOOK

### FOR THE EPICURE.

"Aux Bonnes Choses de France" is the alluring title which Mr. A. H. Adair has chosen for his attractive little shop at No. 6, Tlaver Street, Manchester Square, which was opened recently. It has appeared almost by magic, in answer to a growing need felt and expressed by many people for good French foodstuffs and all the delectable "local" foods which are the specialities of so many districts of France. Mr. Adair has studied these for many years, and the fact that he has been the assistant of the famous Monsieur Boulestin, at the restaurant of that name, since its commencement, is proof positive that there can be little in the culinary art with which he is unacquainted. The little shop, with its spotless shelves filled with porcelain and earthenware jars and glass bottles, containing all manner of delicious pâtés and confitures, preserves and sirops, including dishes which are made to order such as terrine de gibier, *pâté de canard d'Amiens* and a number of other plats from Monsieur Boulestin's own recipes, gives one the sensation of being actually in the country from which these good things come. There are macaroons which have arrived direct from the *Sœurs Macaron*—of the family by whom this unique biscuit was invented—honey from the Landes, *crème de marons* from l'Ardèche and such truffles and foie gras as are gastronomic revelations. In addition, Mr. Adair specialises in the charming table linen from the Basque country and Beau which lasts several lifetimes, and in dishes and pots for the dining table as well. It is safe to prophesy that with such

a list of attractions judicious epicures from all parts of the country will come to buy.

### BEAUTIFUL NEW YEAR GIFTS.

Presents for the New Year are not only popular on the other side of the Channel, and the fashion for giving them has increased considerably of late, especially in the case of those who prefer to wait until the Christmas rush is over to choose gifts for their friends. At Messrs. Wilson and Gil's, The Goldsmiths, Goldsmiths' House, 139-141, Regent Street, W.1, one is confronted with so many charming and appropriate gifts that the only difficulty is *embarras de choix*. For instance, there are their high-grade lever watches, which, whether it is a plain gold or silver watch, or a lovely little example in platinum set with diamonds, onyx and sapphires, are absolutely reliable and could not fail to delight the recipient; while the same might be said for their silver-gilt and enamel toilet ware, which is immensely popular among women. Powder bowls, manicure sets, scent sprays and brush sets as well as the little Poudre Nilde box, are supplied in light blue, light green and yellow, as well as pink, while, as regards other gifts too numerous to mention, intending purchasers should not fail to write for a Gift Catalogue, which will be sent, post free, on application.

### SALE OF COUNTRY AND SPORTS HATS.

It is common knowledge that to buy a hat from Scotts, Limited, 1, Old Bond Street, W.1, is to ensure that one will have the right kind of country and sports headgear and that it will be made of unimpeachable materials which are calculated to wear. Just now there is an added attraction, for

in the Ladies' Department on the first floor there is a wonderful sale in progress, the autumn and winter stock of velours and felt country and sports hats being actually disposed of at a reduction of 5s. in the pound off the marked prices. The sale, although it has begun early, will last until January 31st, so that those who have put off a visit to London until after the New Year will have the consolation of knowing that they need not miss these advantages. Inspection is always invited at Scotts', and courteous and intelligent assistance given to those who require it.

### THE HERMETO WATCH.

Now that we are all discussing gifts, it is hardly to be wondered at that a great deal of interest is centred on the Hermeto Watch, a recent invention which has just been placed on the market by de Trevars, Limited, 197A, Regent Street, W. This watch is protected by a sliding outer case in gold, silver, leather or shagreen, and contains 160 elements of steel, nickel and precious stones, all of which work in perfect unison, being each adapted to precise theoretical calculation. To minimise friction, the axle pivots are set with jewels specially shaped to retain the oil, so as to ensure the accurate working of the whole. Considering that the hair spring and the pendulum make 432,000 vibrations in twenty-four hours one realises the marvellous precision of an accurate watch, and although we may not fully understand the technical details of this new invention in the watch trade, we shall certainly appreciate the perfect time kept by the Hermeto Watch, after we have tested it for a period of years.



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## IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO HELP.

THE resolve to help some benevolent work as at Christmastime is formed by thousands of people in the weeks before Christmas, but when Christmas Day comes, something reminds them that it has never been carried out, and they say sadly, "It is too late; I must think of it in time next year." The particular reason for this article, and its appearance practically on Christmas Day is to stress the point that it is never too late to give. The charities for which we are appealing here are ones which have a particular need, for various reasons, of added funds at Christmastime, but their work is carried on all the year round.

### CHRISTMAS TREATS—

Christmas being the children's festival, we shall give no excuse for stressing first of all the claims of The Waifs and Strays Society, Old Town Hall, Kennington Road, London, S.E.11, which has cared for over 31,000 children in the almost half century of its existence and has 4,600 children in the Society's homes at the moment. This means over 9,000 shoes to provide, even allowing that some members of the family, at the Society's six Cripples' Homes, have only one leg to hop on! Another society which shares honours with this one is Dr. Barnardo's Homes, (Headquarters, 18-26, Stepney Causeway, London, E.1). Here is a family to which five children are added every day. It is the largest family in the world. Destitution is the one unfailing passport through an ever-open door. For 10s. a reader of COUNTRY LIFE may feed one of these little ones for ten days. A shilling a day for a child's food is, indeed, a guarantee of efficiency and economy in the use of funds.

The East End Mission, 583, Commercial Road, Stepney, London, E.1, though not especially concerned with children, has been making a great effort to give 12,000 little children a Christmas treat. They are to have a toy, a lovely entertainment and a bag of goodies each. Parcels of food are also being sent to hundreds of destitute homes whose circumstances are known. Two shillings is the cost of three hours Christmas joy for a child; ten shillings pays for a parcel of food for a large family. Readers of COUNTRY LIFE are earnestly requested to help to "foot the bill." The Church Army (Headquarters, 55, Bryanston Street, London, W.1.) offer a rare chance of spending £10 to the utmost advantage. You have only to send that sum and they will arrange for you a Christmas Dinner and Party for 120 old folk or poor children. Your guests will cost you 1s. 8d. a head. Is it possible to have better value for money?

Turning from the poor and the children, the thought of those who are permanently deprived of such enjoyments as are the common lot of mankind comes home to us to-day, when our eyes are seeing the happy faces around us and our ears are hearing the cheerful voices. Among the charities which assist the blind, none is on a sounder basis and more splendidly organised than St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1. Sir Arthur Pearson's magnificent organisation has taken the sting out of the greatest affliction which the war brought in its train for thousands of blinded soldiers, sailors and airmen. The record of St. Dunstan's successes, of broken lives made whole again, is one of the most romantic stories of modern life.

And lest it should seem that the charities connected with the war are distracting attention from the thousands of sufferers who have never known the joys of possessing all their senses, who have not even the consolation of sacrifice in a good cause to lighten their darkness, we particularly stress the claims of the London Royal Association in Aid of the Deaf and Dumb, 413, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

The hospital staffs in a most splendidly unselfish way see to it that the spirit of Christmas invades the wards, but the hospital authorities are continually hampered in their work by lack of funds, and assistance here is not only fully deserved, but most keenly appreciated.

We would plead in particular for the Royal Northern group of hospitals: The Royal Northern Hospital and Royal Chest Hospital, both placed in extremely poor districts; the Grovelands Hospital and the Reckett Convalescent Home. Being a very young hospital, the Royal Northern, Holloway, N.7 (where subscriptions should be sent), needs an income of £85,000 a year merely to pay its way, and receives only 5 per cent. from endowment.

### —AND BILLS TO PAY.

The Cancer Hospital, Fulham Road, London, solely devoted to the treatment and research of this terrible scourge, is very earnest in soliciting help for its research and radio-therapeutic departments, and building extensions are imperatively required. The present accommodation is only 120 beds, which will be extended as soon as funds are available. It should be noted that a certain number of beds are provided for advanced cases for whom everything is done to keep them comfortable and free from pain.

The Throat Hospital, Golden Square, London, W., is another most deserving institution. Its subscribers give it £500 a year. It spends £12,000. It has opened private rooms to meet public demands at a capital expenditure of £2,500. With fine courage these benevolent institutions go bravely on increasing expenditure because the claims on them are so urgent, and trusting to the goodness of the public in assisting them to pay the bills.

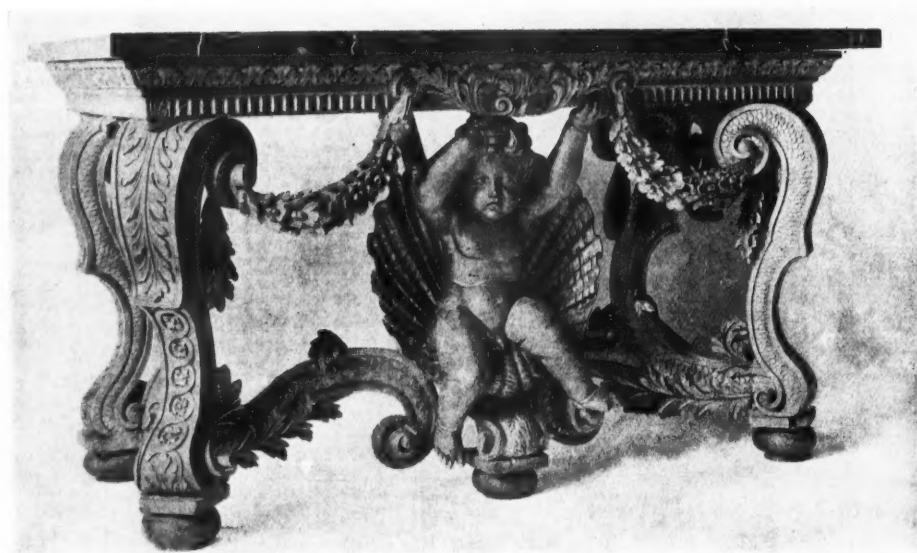
Last, but by no means least on our list of appeals, comes that old established society, the British Sailors Society, Jack's Palace, 680, Commercial Road, London, E.14. Time after time during the war we realised that but for the courage and splendid self-sacrifice of our sailors, "all in the way of dooty," we should have starved. In recognition of this—though few people seem to know of the fact—the Empire Memorial Hostel to the memory of the 18,000 seamen who died to keep the nation alive during the great war, was opened in Limehouse in 1924. It has 230 separate beds, for a little privacy is one of the sailor's rarest treats, and he loves it when he comes ashore. It accommodated 101,000 sailors last year. The restaurant served over 104,000 meals. Of these 76,401 meals and 594 beds were supplied free to distressed sailors. This work is surely worth carrying on, and further funds must be found for it if it is not to be crippled in its activities.

And now to end—in every instance mentioned here a Christmas Day gift sent on Christmas Day will be as useful as a gift sent six weeks ago. It is, indeed, never too late to help.

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